

The Guardian Monday June 8 1998

**Results from Montreal**

**100m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 10.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 10.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 10.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 10.64

**200m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 21.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 21.54  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 22.04  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 22.14

**400m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 46.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 46.54  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 46.64  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 46.74

**800m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1:59.37  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1:59.47  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1:59.57  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1:59.67

**1500m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4:01.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4:01.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4:01.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4:01.64

**5000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 15:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 15:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 15:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 15:41.64

**10000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 32:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 32:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 32:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 32:41.64

**20000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 65:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 65:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 65:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 65:41.64

**40000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 131:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 131:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 131:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 131:41.64

**80000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 263:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 263:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 263:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 263:41.64

**160000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 527:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 527:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 527:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 527:41.64

**320000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1055:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1055:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1055:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1055:41.64

**640000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 2111:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 2111:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 2111:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 2111:41.64

**1280000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4223:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4223:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4223:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4223:41.64

**2560000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 8447:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 8447:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 8447:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 8447:41.64

**5120000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 16895:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 16895:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 16895:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 16895:41.64

**10240000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 33790:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 33790:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 33790:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 33790:41.64

**20480000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 67580:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 67580:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 67580:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 67580:41.64

**40960000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 135160:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 135160:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 135160:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 135160:41.64

**81920000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 270320:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 270320:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 270320:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 270320:41.64

**163840000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 540640:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 540640:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 540640:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 540640:41.64

**327680000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1081280:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1081280:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1081280:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1081280:41.64

**655360000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 2162560:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 2162560:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 2162560:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 2162560:41.64

**1310720000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4325120:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4325120:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4325120:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4325120:41.64

**2621440000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 8650240:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 8650240:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 8650240:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 8650240:41.64

**5242880000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 17300480:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 17300480:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 17300480:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 17300480:41.64

**10485760000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 34600960:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 34600960:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 34600960:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 34600960:41.64

**20971520000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 69201920:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 69201920:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 69201920:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 69201920:41.64

**41943040000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 138403840:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 138403840:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 138403840:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 138403840:41.64

**83886080000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 276807680:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 276807680:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 276807680:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 276807680:41.64

**167772160000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 553615360:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 553615360:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 553615360:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 553615360:41.64

**335544320000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1107230720:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1107230720:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1107230720:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1107230720:41.64

**671088640000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 2214461440:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 2214461440:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 2214461440:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 2214461440:41.64

**1342177280000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4428922880:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4428922880:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4428922880:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4428922880:41.64

**2684354560000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 8857845760:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 8857845760:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 8857845760:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 8857845760:41.64

**5368709120000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 17715691520:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 17715691520:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 17715691520:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 17715691520:41.64

**10737418240000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 35431383040:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 35431383040:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 35431383040:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 35431383040:41.64

**21474836480000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 70862766080:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 70862766080:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 70862766080:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 70862766080:41.64

**42949672960000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 141725532160:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 141725532160:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 141725532160:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 141725532160:41.64

**85899345920000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 283451064320:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 283451064320:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 283451064320:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 283451064320:41.64

**171798691840000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 566902128640:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 566902128640:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 566902128640:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 566902128640:41.64

**343597383680000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1133804257280:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1133804257280:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1133804257280:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1133804257280:41.64

**687194767360000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 2267608514560:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 2267608514560:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 2267608514560:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 2267608514560:41.64

**1374389534720000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4535217029120:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4535217029120:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4535217029120:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4535217029120:41.64

**2748779069440000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 9070434058240:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 9070434058240:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 9070434058240:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 9070434058240:41.64

**5497558138880000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 18140868116480:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 18140868116480:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 18140868116480:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 18140868116480:41.64

**10995116277760000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 36281736232960:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 36281736232960:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 36281736232960:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 36281736232960:41.64

**21990232555520000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 72563472465920:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 72563472465920:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 72563472465920:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 72563472465920:41.64

**43980465111040000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 145126944931840:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 145126944931840:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 145126944931840:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 145126944931840:41.64

**87960930222080000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 290253889863680:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 290253889863680:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 290253889863680:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 290253889863680:41.64

**175921860444160000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 580507779727360:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 580507779727360:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 580507779727360:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 580507779727360:41.64

**351843720888320000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1161015559454720:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1161015559454720:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1161015559454720:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1161015559454720:41.64

**703687441776640000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 2322031118909440:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 2322031118909440:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 2322031118909440:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 2322031118909440:41.64

**1407374883553280000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4644062237818880:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4644062237818880:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4644062237818880:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4644062237818880:41.64

**2814749767106560000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 9288124475637760:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 9288124475637760:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 9288124475637760:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 9288124475637760:41.64

**5629499534213120000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 18576248951275520:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 18576248951275520:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 18576248951275520:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 18576248951275520:41.64

**11258999068426240000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 37152497902551040:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 37152497902551040:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 37152497902551040:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 37152497902551040:41.64

**22517998136852480000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 74304995805102080:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 74304995805102080:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 74304995805102080:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 74304995805102080:41.64

**45035996273704960000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 148609991610204160:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 148609991610204160:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 148609991610204160:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 148609991610204160:41.64

**90071992547409920000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 297219983220408320:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 297219983220408320:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 297219983220408320:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 297219983220408320:41.64

**180143985094819840000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 594439966440816640:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 594439966440816640:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 594439966440816640:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 594439966440816640:41.64

**360287970189639680000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1188879932881633280:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1188879932881633280:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1188879932881633280:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1188879932881633280:41.64

**720575940379279360000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 2377759865763266560:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 2377759865763266560:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 2377759865763266560:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 2377759865763266560:41.64

**1441151880758558720000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4755519731526533120:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4755519731526533120:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4755519731526533120:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4755519731526533120:41.64

**2882303761517117440000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 9511039463053066240:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 9511039463053066240:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 9511039463053066240:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 9511039463053066240:41.64

**5764607523034234880000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 19022078926106132480:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 19022078926106132480:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 19022078926106132480:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 19022078926106132480:41.64

**11529215046068469760000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 38044157852212264960:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 38044157852212264960:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 38044157852212264960:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 38044157852212264960:41.64

**23058430092136939520000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 76088315704424529920:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 76088315704424529920:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 76088315704424529920:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 76088315704424529920:41.64

**46116860184273879040000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 152176631408849059840:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 152176631408849059840:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 152176631408849059840:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 152176631408849059840:41.64

**92233720368547758080000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 304353262817698119680:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 304353262817698119680:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 304353262817698119680:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 304353262817698119680:41.64

**184467440737095516160000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 608706525635396239360:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 608706525635396239360:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 608706525635396239360:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 608706525635396239360:41.64

**368934881474191032320000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 1217413051270792478720:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 1217413051270792478720:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 1217413051270792478720:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 1217413051270792478720:41.64

**737869762948382064640000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 2434826102541584957440:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 2434826102541584957440:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 2434826102541584957440:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 2434826102541584957440:41.64

**1475739525996764129280000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 4869652205083169914880:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 4869652205083169914880:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 4869652205083169914880:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 4869652205083169914880:41.64

**2951479051993528258560000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 9739304410166339829760:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 9739304410166339829760:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 9739304410166339829760:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 9739304410166339829760:41.64

**5902958103987056517120000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 19478608820332679659520:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 19478608820332679659520:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 19478608820332679659520:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 19478608820332679659520:41.64

**11805916207974113034240000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 38957217640665359319040:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 38957217640665359319040:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 38957217640665359319040:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 38957217640665359319040:41.64

**23611832415948226068480000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 77914435281330718638080:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 77914435281330718638080:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 77914435281330718638080:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 77914435281330718638080:41.64

**47223664831896452136960000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 155828870562661437276160:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 155828870562661437276160:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 155828870562661437276160:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake (Jamaica) 155828870562661437276160:41.64

**94447329663792904273920000m**  
 1. Michael Johnson (USA) 311657741125322874552320:41.34  
 2. Maurice Greene (USA) 311657741125322874552320:41.44  
 3. Donovan Bailey (Canada) 311657741125322874552320:41.54  
 4. Yohan Blake



## Sketch

## The new caring, sharing Harriet



Simon Hoggart

DO feel sorry for Harriet Harman (and you won't read that sentence anywhere else, I'll wager). It must be utterly draining to have a whispering campaign against you. Sir Bernard Ingham, when he briefed about the fate of doomed Tory ministers, was at least open about it.

The Black Spot was served, and that was that. You were done, dead in the water — savanara, sucker. It was like the moment when the judge pulled on the black cap; you had a pretty good idea what was going to happen next. Under New Labour, the whole thing is more insidious. The drip, drip, drip of press speculation. The certainty that your colleagues are muttering, secretly and scornfully, behind your back while being friendly and supportive to your face.

Your civil servants don't say a word to you, but you can hear them whispering next door about the latest leak. Even your driver knows your fate before you do.

Now and again a newspaper sends some venomous and dysfunctional hack to write an article saying how awful you are, and what hurts is not so much the abuse, levelled after perhaps 10 minutes' acquaintance, but the knowledge that everywhere in Westminster and Whitehall, the article is being clipped out and lovingly savoured.

So I thought Ms Harman handled herself with a certain dignity. American murderers, who can endure years on Death Row, often try to change their characters, finding God, or raising cage birds, or studying for degrees. Ms Harman has decided to spend her last days by suspending normal party politics and offering a benevolent kindness to everyone she encounters.

Gone were the fierce demands that single parents got

themselves out to work. "Working parents do not only need good child care, they need time with their children, around their birth and when they are ill."

"A majority of the workforce are women now, and most of them are somebody's daughter and somebody's mother. We must recognise family responsibilities."

And she wasn't just cuddly towards parents, who in the past would have been told to get out of the house and start flipping hamburgers.

Theresa May, a newly promoted Tory spokesperson (they are so desperate that they are giving frontbench jobs to people who have been in the House barely more than a year), the equivalent of the teenage boys Hitler sent into action towards the end of the war asked her first question.

She accused the Inland Revenue of removing tax breaks for workplace nurseries. The old Harman would have laid about her. A spume of ersatz outrage would have flowed over the hapless Ms May.

Instead Harriet graciously congratulated her on her promotion. "I particularly welcome the point she made, about the tax treatment of workplace nurseries. I shall keep her informed about this. She has come to the despatch box, and she has made an important point."

Tories whistled in surprise. Ms May looked a little stunned, like a boxer in his first professional fight finding himself being kissed by his opponent.

Labour MPs were puzzled and confused. Was this an attack on the Treasury and on Gordon Brown's tax policy? Having accepted the inevitability of her fate, was she turning herself into a backbench rebel, a latter-day Norman Lamont?

In the same session, MPs discussed women's rights and concerns, a topic of perennial interest. Lorna Fitzmaurice (Lab, Rochdale) talked about the "Listening to Women Exercise".

William Hague and the Conservatives are currently "Listening to Britain". Tony Blair is engaged in his ongoing programme of "Listening to Rupert Murdoch". There's so much damn listening going on, no one has time to do any talking.

## Review

## Familiar family dysfunctionality

Lyn Gardner

See *Urchins* Scotland/Touring

WE'VE been here before. Sharman Macdonald is once again down at the water's edge with a family drama which — like *When I Was A Girl* I Used To Scream And Shout

and *The Winter Guest* — has prickly, dissatisfied mothers, blossoming daughters and a lot of not particularly nasty secrets at the bottom of the rock pools on the sea shore.

It is 1961, and 11-year-old Rena and her Scottish mum Ailsa and Welsh dad John are not enjoying their annual fortnight's holiday in Wales with John's brother, David, and his family. Ailsa and John scrap, and Rena's dismay is compounded by the fact that she can't sing and play the guitar as well as her father would wish, and that her cousin, the know-it-all Noelle, has already sprouted breasts.

For the first act, the play and Iris Brown's evocative production dawdle around while the characters play the guitar, sing the odd song and stare out to sea with soulful looks that suggest either severe stomach pain from the primum stove bacon baps or terminal melancholy.

In the second act the pace speeds up to a crawl and we find out why they are all so blue as family skeleton piles up upon family skeleton. John and his brother's wife Dora go for a roll in the long grass, babies are raised from the dead, parentage is questioned and growing up proves hard to do.

You wouldn't mind the familiarity of it all so much, if the tone of the piece wasn't so

hackneyed. How many times before have we seen and heard this kind of memory play, filtered through the watchful eye of the child who one shimmering summer's day sees her flawed family clearly for the first time and moves forever across that invisible line that divides childhood innocence from the knowingness of the adult world.

Sea Urchins began as an award-winning radio play and I imagine that you might more easily forgive the languor for the sake of atmosphere in that particular medium. But the transition to stage has not been clearly thought out and Brown's production is as cumbersome as the design which relies on torn blue plastic for its sea and sky effects.

Macdonald has an exceptional gift for comedy and it doesn't desert her here — in a play heavy with angst, real and imagined, the real truths and tragedy emerge out of the laughter.

Dora's assertion that she only ever wanted babies, not children who would grow up; Ailsa's jealousy of her bosomy teenage niece Rhianon; "You're too thin and too young," she spits. Rena's perky assertion at the beginning of the play: "I'm never going to be a woman." But of course she will.

In the end it is a despairing play which suggests the desperate Rena who prays for a serial killer to come and wipe out her entire family is already grievously damaged by the past, that Noelle is right in believing that she will grow up to be like her own mother, and that Ailsa's bitter belief that there can be no real friendship between women, is true. I don't believe that and I don't think this play will persuade you in its truth either.

EU takes first step on Nato force to halt Serbs, as Robin Cook tells President Milosevic: 'Back off now'

## 'Last warning' on Kosovo

Martin Walker in Luxembourg and Richard Norton-Taylor

EUROPEAN Union foreign ministers yesterday unanimously demanded that Serbia violence stop and all army and special police units be withdrawn from Kosovo. They backed Britain's plan for United Nations authorisation for Nato to use "all necessary means" to halt Serbia's use of force.

"I hope Milosevic is listening this time — this is his last warning. He should back off now," the Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook, said on behalf of the European Council of Ministers. In the course of an unprecedented personal attack on the Serb president as a man who was looting his nation.

"Milosevic has acquired a very large part of the wealth of Serbia — that is why no

options are excluded," Mr Cook added. "He has also undermined free expression within Serbia, acting sharply to reduce independent broadcasting... and given new licences to his wife, his son and his daughter."

Tony Blair — who spoke on the telephone over the weekend with Bill Clinton and Boris Yeltsin about the crisis — said yesterday after talks with the Swedish government: "We are considering along with our other allies and friends what action can be taken to stop what is an appalling and unacceptable situation."

At least 250 people have died since February in clashes between Serb forces and fighters demanding independence for Kosovo, a province overwhelmingly peopled by ethnic Albanians set in the midst of the present-day

remains of Yugoslavia, which is dominated by Serbia. Thousands of refugees are on the move, and the fear is that the conflict will spill over into Albania and Macedonia.

Britain is now hoping to rally Nato defence ministers behind a military plan this week, and then — after a meeting on Friday of foreign ministers of the G8 group of leading industrial countries — to get a UN resolution authorising Nato forces to intervene if necessary.

The plan's rough outline is to use diplomatic pressure and the threat of air strikes to push for a withdrawal of Serbian police and military units, and replace them by a Nato-led peacekeeping force.

But in Washington, President Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, said the administration was not discussing military inter-

vention at the moment. And Mr Cook — while saying he "would not exclude an international [peacekeeping] presence in the event of a political agreement" over Kosovo — admitted: "We are a very long way from that international agreement."

Like the US administration, neither the Russian nor the French government is fully behind the British scheme, which envisages the Nato peacekeepers staying for up to a year, while new elections are held to establish a legitimate autonomous government in Kosovo.

The province would, however, remain formally a part of Yugoslavia. Refusal to accept an independent Kosovo is seen as an essential carrot for the government of Serbia and for Russian support.

Pressure was put on the Russian president, Boris Yel-

sin, yesterday by Chancellor Kohl of Germany during a meeting in Bonn. German sources suggested that Mr Yeltsin was left in little doubt that the Western goodwill his economy requires would be helped by his support on Kosovo.

Russia's defence minister, Igor Sergeev, appeared to take the point by saying his country would not in principle oppose Nato intervention in the Kosovo crisis if it took place with UN Security Council approval. "It could be on the basis of the decision of the Security Council... Russia would not be opposed to this."

Europe yesterday also agreed to ban new foreign investments in Serbia — the main source of the Serbian government's hard-currency income. An arms embargo and a freeze on Serbian overseas assets are already in force as a

result of Serbia's role in the Bosnian conflict. The European Council also agreed to back an instant humanitarian mission run jointly by the EU Commission and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to deal with the many displaced people in Kosovo.

The mood at yesterday's foreign ministers' meeting was grave. Ministers said the images of renewed violence and refugees had brought back Europe's feelings of shame over Bosnia, and the determination not to let it happen again. Even Greece, traditionally close to Belgrade, insisted that "we put the blame where it needs to be put — on Milosevic".

"We cannot tolerate in any part of Europe a return to ethnic cleansing," Mr Cook insisted.

Kosovo crisis, page 5

## MacKenzie's exit stuns Mirror staff

Surprise move for Talk Radio as career of former Sun editor takes another twist

Stuart Millar, Roy Greenslade and Simon Beavis

KELVIN MacKenzie is to leave the Mirror Group, in the second high-profile departure to rock the tabloid press in less than a week.

The resignation of Mr MacKenzie, the former editor of the Sun credited with revitalising the Mirror after less than six months in overall control, last night prompted furious speculation over where he intends to go next.

He told the Mirror board that he was leaving to put together a bid for Talk Radio, a commercial speech-based station, in a move which could see him going head to head with Chris Evans, the Virgin Radio boss. But last night speculation was mounting that he may be planning a return to Rupert Murdoch's News International — four years after he quit as managing director of the satellite TV station BSkyB.

Although he contacted Talk Radio to voice an interest in buying it, he has not been in contact since and has not requested the necessary company information. Observers believe it would be difficult for him to raise the necessary capital without it.

The rumours were heightened by David Yelland, who took over as editor of the Sun yesterday. He is believed to have hinted to staff earlier in the day that changes at the Mirror were in the pipeline.

The announcement is the latest surprise from a man who has made a career out of unexpected changes of job. Colleagues and friends said they had been stunned by his decision to leave just as the Mirror had arrested its circulation decline and closed the gap on its arch-rival, the Sun.

"The place is like a bomb-site," said one Mirror journalist. "We are all shell-shocked."

Piers Morgan, editor of the Mirror, said: "We are extremely sad about it. We had a brilliant six months working together. He is very instinctive man and I am sure that his instincts will be right for him on this occasion. They always have been in the past. It will not mean a change for the Mirror. We worked very closely together and we agreed about the way forward."

The success of the Mirror's move upmarket, in a relaunch spearheaded by Mr MacKenzie and Mr Morgan, was one of the factors behind Stuart Higgins' resignation last week as editor of the Sun. He had resisted management pressure to follow the Mirror upmarket.

Mr MacKenzie's departure comes at a time when a possible bid for the Mirror Group



Kelvin MacKenzie... may bid for Talk Radio, as friends say he "wants to run his own train set" PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID SILLITOE

from the German company Axel Springer would give him lucrative share options. But he is understood to have told friends he neither needed nor cared about the money.

Mr MacKenzie, who earns £320,000 a year plus £50,000 in bonuses, and had a "get-out" clause in his contract, also confided to them that he was "sick of making money for other people".

"He has always wanted to run his own train set," one former colleague said.

A successful bid from the German company might also have seen Mr MacKenzie parting company with Mirror Group.

Talk Radio is known to be ripe for an outside bid. CIT, the Belgium-based media company which owns 63 per cent of the company, want to

sell its stake for about £40 million.

Although it has vastly improved its audience figures, it is still losing £700,000 a month. Other media groups, including Associated Newspapers, owners of the Daily Mail, also considered a bid but decided the risks were too high. One bid has been received so far, from Jaycor, a US-based holding company.

January 1994: Becomes managing director of BSkyB, the Murdoch-owned satellite television company.

August 1994: Resigns as managing director of BSkyB after feud with chief executive Sam Chisholm. MacKenzie described him as a bully.

October 1994: Joins the Mirror Group in charge of television interests. Launches topless darts, the news bunny and weather in Norwegian on Live TV.

January 1998: Takes over control of Mirror newspaper titles as deputy chief executive and managing director of Mirror Group.

June 1998: Resigns his position at Mirror Group. Exact future unknown.

## Strong public backing for on-the-spot drug fines

continued from page 1

Lessons for children aged between five and 11. More than 75 per cent of the public believe that drug awareness lessons should be given in primary schools, demolishing fears that parents would be shocked by it.

A significant minority (47

per cent) also believe the illegality of such drugs actually encourages teenagers to experiment with them. Only 13 per cent believe that criminality actually deters teenagers from trying them.

Among 18 to 24-year-olds, the proportion who believe that illegality is part of the attrac-

tion rises to 64 per cent against 8 per cent who think it is a deterrent.

The poll also shows the generation gap in attitudes to illicit drugs remains as stark as ever. A majority (53 to 47 per cent) of those polled aged 18 to 34 agreed with the state-

ment that "cannabis is no worse than smoking or drinking".

A similar proportion (53 to 46 per cent) of the same age group also rejected the notion that if you use soft drugs, you will end up on hard drugs.

Legalisation is unlikely to lead to a boom in drug use, with only 16 per cent of the

under-34s saying they would buy drugs if they were made legal.

The older generations aged 35 and over do not share this approach. Only one in three of this group agreed that "using cannabis is no worse than smoking or drinking", while 66 per cent of them be-

lieved that if you use soft drugs you will end up on hard drugs.

ICM interviewed 1,201 adults aged 18 and over by telephone between June 5 and 6, 1998. Interviews were conducted across the country and the results have been weighted to the profile of all adults.

CWS FACT No 17

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A family of businesses

صكنا من الامم



The Guardian Tuesday June 9 1998

## Bridges to Babylon

The current Rolling Stones world tour, Bridges to Babylon, which started in the US in September 1997, has earned about £53m from the first 33 shows.

### Bridge building

It takes about 200 staff to set up each of the shows.

200 travel permanently with the tour. 60 are hired locally at each venue.

### Who does what

Construction  
Carpenters, riggers

Other  
Make up, caterers, drivers, security

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Technical  
Sound, lighting and video engineers

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Monsanto accuses Charles of pandering to green lobby, while opponents of gene-modified food say his views reflect public concern

# Prince 'over-reacting' to genetic engineering

Nick Hopkins

THE Prince of Wales came under attack yesterday for "over-reacting" to the dangers of genetically modified food.

Monsanto, the multinational company at the forefront of agricultural bio-engineering, accused him of pandering to the green lobby and refusing to acknowledge advances in the field.

But the prince received the full support of consumer and environmental groups, who believe his views reflect widespread public concern.

Buckingham Palace said he stood by everything he had written in an article in yesterday's Daily Telegraph.

Warning that genetic engineering was taking mankind "into realms that belong to

God and God alone", the prince wrote: "If something does go badly wrong we will be faced with the problem of clearing up a kind of pollution which is self-perpetuating. I am not convinced that anyone has the first idea of how this could be done, or indeed who would have to pay."

Genetically modified (GM) plant breeding raised crucial ethical and practical considerations, he said, calling for a wide public debate. Choice backed by comprehensive labelling was needed so people knew what they were eating.

The prince was particularly concerned that some companies wanted approval to grow pesticide-tolerant GM crops in Britain. He called for a moratorium on their introduction, claiming that they would devastate local wildlife.

Although he did not men-

tion Monsanto by name, it was clear that his broadside was aimed at the US-based company. Last weekend it launched a media campaign to raise awareness in the UK of the benefits of GM crops.

The article's timing was not lost on the company's senior executives, who defended its work yesterday.

Monsanto was careful not to show disrespect for the prince, but there was barely concealed frustration over his views.

Colin Merritt, its technical director, said: "The prince believes in organic farming, and he is closely associated with people from the organic movement and green pressure groups. His arguments are the ones we are familiar with from the green lobby."

"He does not have much information coming from people on the other side of the

debate. I think some of his views are out of touch."

Dr Merritt said a huge amount of research had been done in recent years, and it all pointed to the practical advantages of using GM crops.

"The risks that he talks about are not based in science. We now understand the chemistry and the genetics far more than we did."

The prince's questioning of the need for GM farming was "a complete over-reaction". There was no way that organic farming could meet the world's food demands.

The National Consumer Council said the prince was in tune with public concerns. It criticised a recent European Union edict that food which had been genetically tampered with did not have to be kept separate from normal crops and clearly labelled.

GM foods already on the

market include maize, tomatoes and soya, which have been changed to make them pest-resistant or stay fresh longer. About 60 per cent of processed foods contain soya.

A spokesman for the Consumers' Association said: "The process needs to be slowed down. It is possible that GM foods might prove to be a 'good thing', but our concern is that customers are not ready to see them on the shelves yet, and they must be given the choice of whether or not to eat them."

Jeff Rooker, Food Safety Minister, said in launching National Food Safety Week that the prince was entitled to his views but insisted there were strict controls in place to ensure that GM foods on the market were safe.

He said breeders of new plant varieties had always "messaged about with nature".



Prince Charles, outspoken on issues which concern him

## Charles on high horse

PRINCE Charles often mounts his high royal horse to deliver profound thoughts on the issues which concern him, writes Nick Hopkins. He has blamed his pronouncements on an "inability to keep my mouth shut".

Gardening apart, the prince's best known pet subject is architecture—he most famously described the National Gallery extension as a "monstrous carbuncle"—but he has also fulminated over:

- The Press. Cynical national newspapers and blinkered pressure groups were eating away at the values of society.
- Inner city housing. Run-down council estates created a "lethal cocktail" of problems.
- Trendy teachers who ignored the great works of English literature. Science, he said, would not bring wisdom or happiness to children.
- Homeopathic medicines. He has called for the government to give patients complementary treatments on the NHS.

## News in brief

### Police apologise in discrimination case

LINCOLNSHIRE police yesterday apologised and paid undisclosed compensation to Inspector Dena Fleming following a two year legal battle after she was suspended on the full pay by the force for putting a tape recorder in her locker to get evidence of alleged sexual discrimination.

Inspector Fleming, aged 39, who joined the force in 1986, alleged she had been victimised after taking charge of a male dominated shift at Gainsborough. In February the tribunal ruled against her claims of sex discrimination but said she had been victimised after making them. Inspector Fleming is thought to have been claiming for hurt feelings and potential loss of earnings on the grounds that she was unable to apply for promotion during her suspension. — *Jamie Wilson*

### Bull gores man to death

WILSON COWAN, 56, a water board worker was yesterday gored to death by a bull which burst out of a field while he was taking samples near the village of Pettrill, Lancashire.

Police said the bull had become "agitated" and began bellowing. "The bull then managed to burst through a fence and managed to trap Mr Cowan between the fence and his van. The animal then gored him in the head and body, causing him to be thrown on to the road." The animal is to be destroyed.

### Top car thieves jailed

EIGHT members of a gang which stole £800,000 worth of the finest cars they could find from outside expensive homes, hotels and golf clubs in Birmingham and then filmed themselves performing stunts were jailed for up to four years yesterday.

Coventry crown court had heard that the Acocks Green Posse, aged between 18 and 30, favoured BMWs and Porsches and kept the distinctive bonnet badges at home as trophies. Judge Bruce Coles said they had a "premeditated and outrageous disregard of the law" which had resulted in anarchy in parts of Birmingham. — *David Ward*

### Guardian readership rises

THE GUARDIAN'S readership rose by 4 per cent over the last 12 months according to the latest National Readership Survey figures. The paper was read by 1,280,000 people a day compared with 1,231,000 the previous year. During the same period the Independent's readership fell by 12.1 per cent to 738,000.

The Guardian's Saturday paper did even better—rising by 10.6 per cent. The Independent's Saturday edition fell by 9.8 per cent.



The disputed Wtewael painting PHOTOGRAPH: HEATHCLIFF O'MALLEY

## Art market awaits outcome of court battle over painting

Masterpieces could flood into sale rooms, writes John Ezard

THE ART market is likely to be deluged with lost masterpieces worth millions of pounds, if the outcome of a London court case reassures their owners.

This prospect was held out by a QC in the High Court yesterday. The case is a dispute over ownership of a 16th century Dutch painting by Joachim Wtewael worth £700,000—one of thousands of works stolen or missing since the second world war.

The paintings include works by many of the most highly regarded artists of the past 700 years.

Last night, from a 102-page list of canvases taken during the war from Belgian galleries alone and never recovered, the Art Loss Register in London announced:

- Van Dyck's Study of the Descent from the Cross, painted in about 1600;
- Diana Reposing, by Rubens and Brueghel the Younger;
- A landscape by Brueghel the Elder (1600);
- A Boy Smiling, by Frans Hals (1620);
- Mary Magdalen, a panel by Hans Memling (1490);
- Salome Dancing before Herod, a Picasso engraving (1920).

Virtually all six would fetch millions if sold today. But those into whose hands they came during the chaos of war were their earlier owners.

This is what happened over the tiny Wtewael painting. The Holy Family with Saints John and Elizabeth and Angels, when a Panamanian corporation tried to sell it through Sotheby's in 1992.

It was withdrawn from sale after doubts were raised in the media about its provenance. Since then it has

stayed in Sotheby's safekeeping, pending settlement of an ownership dispute between the city of Gotha, acting with the Federal Republic of Germany, and the Panamanian company, Cobert Finance S.A.

A main issue in the court dispute is whether a statute of limitations applies to wartime art theft. Yesterday Alexander Layton QC, for the German authorities, told Mr Justice Moses that his decision would be closely watched by London auction houses at the centre of the art trade.

"There are many thousands of works of art known to exist before this century's wars which remain hidden," Mr Layton said. "The outcome of this case may have a significant bearing on the extent to which those who now have those lost works of art will sell them for their own profit, without fear of claims by their rightful owners."

Mr Layton said the Wtewael story was like a detective novel. Owned by the Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha since 1828, it had after 1828

been part of the important Saxe-Coburg-Gotha Ducal Foundation for Art and Science collection.

During the war it was most likely put into storage at a nearby castle in what was to become the German Democratic Republic. Its postwar fate was controversial. Mr Layton said, Cobert claimed that Adolf Kozlenkov, a colonel in the Soviet forces from Latvia, took the picture and gave it to a neighbouring family for safekeeping in 1955.

After he died in 1982 it was returned to his son, Alexander, who sold it to a Galleen who arranged for it to be taken to Berlin, where it was passed on to an art dealer.

But the German authorities said archives showed no sign of a colonel from Latvia called Kozlenkov. The authorities argued it had been kept in the Soviet Union until 1986 and later sold to Cobert.

Cobert is due to argue that the German civil code gave authorities only 30 years after the theft to bring a claim for the work's return.

expertise," said Mr Bevan. "Mr McArdle's role was a central role." Although there was no direct evidence that he had planted the bomb, his finger, thumb and palm prints had been found on a number of other items, the court heard.

The case, which the jury were told would last about three weeks, continues.

## Trial of alleged IRA figure in Docklands bomb must go on despite peace process, jury told

Duncan Campbell  
Crime Correspondent

JURORS in the trial of a man accused of the IRA London Docklands bombing were told yesterday that, despite the hopes of an end to violence, they still had to try a very serious crime.

James McArdle, aged 29,

pleads not guilty to conspiring with others to cause explosions and to the murders of a newspaper and his assistant at South Quay in Docklands on February 9 1996.

The jury at Woolwich crown court in south London was told that McArdle had already stood trial but that, through no fault of his or of

the prosecution, a retrial had been ordered.

Prosecuting counsel John Bevan QC said that little more than two years ago an enormous lorry bomb had exploded at 6.59 pm at South Quay. Six warnings, most of them using a recognised IRA codeword, had been given between 5.30 and 5.45 pm.

"The purpose of a warning

is to provide an excuse for the bombers," he said. They did not want the bomb to be made safe because that would defeat the object of the exercise.

PC Roger de Graf, had warned newspaper Inam Bashir and his assistant John Jeffries of the bomb but, sadly, they had not acted swiftly enough and were killed instantly when it exploded, said

Mr Bevan. "You may think it something of a miracle that other people were not killed." Many had suffered serious injuries and one woman office-worker had required 300 stitches to her face. Damage worth £150 million was done.

"This was a major operation which must have involved a large number of people, each with their own

expertise," said Mr Bevan. "Mr McArdle's role was a central role." Although there was no direct evidence that he had planted the bomb, his finger, thumb and palm prints had been found on a number of other items, the court heard.

The case, which the jury were told would last about three weeks, continues.

## Divorce courts to recognise woman's contribution to husband's career in attempt to stop poverty Ex-wives to share husbands' pensions

David Brindle, Social Services Correspondent

DIVORCE courts are expected to allocate shares of the husband's pension as well as the family home in 50,000 cases a year under a draft bill published yesterday by the Government.

The move is being presented as proper recognition of a wife's contribution to her husband's career and an effective weapon to counter poverty among women in retirement.

Although the plans would cost the Government a net £60 million a year, largely through tax concessions, they would save a forecast £5 million in social security benefits for poor women pensioners.

Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, said: "Many women who divorce can be left without a share in their husband's pension—despite their domestic responsibilities." Harriet Harman

only a third that of a man.

Pension-splitting is forecast in 50,000 of an expected 180,000 divorces in the first year after implementation of the bill, likely to be in 2000. The £60 million cost to government would be through double tax relief on divided funds.

The cost of administering division of pensions, estimated at £35 million a year, would be borne by divorcing couples—an average £700 where both partners stayed in the same scheme.

marriage might have been. However, the consultation paper states that whether a divorce settlement did include a pension share would depend on "what is fairest in the division of total assets".

It adds: "This also means that any settlement will not necessarily divide the pension rights equally between the parties."

Ministers say men are twice as likely to have an occupational pension, while a woman's is typically worth

'Many women can be left without a share in their husband's pension—despite their domestic responsibilities' Harriet Harman



Caroline Beamish: "When your husband's a diplomat, it is difficult to get acceptable jobs abroad" PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN GOODWIN

In an attempt to avoid a repeat of the fiasco surrounding the 1991 Child Support Act, when the legislative process arguably failed adequately to scrutinise a flawed measure, ministers are seeking comment on the bill.

The draft legislation is open for public consultation for two months. In a pioneering move, it will also be examined by the Commons social security committee, which will take evidence on the proposals and report by the end of October.

Ms Harman described the approach as "a key step forward in modernising the House of Commons".

Archy Kirkwood, the committee's chairman, said: "This is an important new departure for parliamentary select committees. We are happy to accept the challenge of working with the [Department of Social Security] to enhance the openness and effectiveness of the legislative process."

The bill was welcomed by Fairshares, a group which

campaigns for fair division of all assets on divorce.

Saïlle Quin, spokeswoman for the group, said: "When we started Fairshares in 1993, everyone laughed at us and said we hadn't got a hope in hell."

Iain Duncan Smith, the shadow social security secretary, also welcomed the bill, but voiced doubts about its practicalities and its long-term impact.

"It could have a prohibitive effect on young couples saving

for retirement." Mr Duncan Smith said. Ann Taylor, the Leader of the Commons, last night disclosed plans for three more bills to be published in draft for scrutiny by select committees.

They are the Food Standards Bill, the Freedom of Information Bill and the Limited Liability Partnerships Bill.

Pension Sharing on Divorce; DSS, The Adelphi, 1-11 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6HT. Consultation until August 7

## Kohl and Chirac reject centralised European state

Martin Walker  
in Luxembourg

THE FRENCH and German leaders have rejected the goal of a centralised European super-state and embraced the British concept of "subsidiarity", shifting decisions from Brussels to as close as possible to the people.

In a joint letter to Tony Blair ahead of this weekend's Cardiff summit, President Jacques Chirac and Chancellor Helmut Kohl call for "the implementation of the subsidiarity principle in order to achieve a clearer demarcation of authority between the European Union and the member states", and demands an overhaul of "the present mass of regulatory instruments" in Brussels.

"It cannot be the goal of European policy to establish a European central state," the letter says.

"We must rather do all that we can to create a strong EU with the necessary scope for action and the capacity to preserve and foster the diversity and richness of Europe's political, cultural and regional traditions and characteristics."

But the letter also says Europe must "further develop political union, in tandem with economic and monetary union".

It may also be seen as a polite crowbar which is intended to prise open a debate on institutional reform, ahead of the EU's enlargement into eastern Europe.

President Chirac has been

manoeuvring hard to appoint the former EU president Jacques Delors, to run a special committee on such reform, like the one he ran with such success on monetary union.

Institutional reform means changing the system under which each member state has one commissioner in Brussels, and big states like France, Germany, Italy and Britain get two. This would leave an enlarged EU with an unwieldy 33 commissioners, assuming Poland gets two.

Smaller nations are stoutly resisting any threat to keeping their own commissioners, even as most countries want an extension of majority voting powers in the EU Council.

British officials saw two separate national agendas straining against each other in the text. The Germans have long been sympathetic to the principle of subsidiarity, and worry about public disaffection, particularly German resentment at the loss of the Deutschmark.

The French, by contrast, are concerned at the health of the Franco-German axis after their furious row about the head of the new European Central Bank last month, and are determined to restore the leading role of their partnership in Europe, even if it means spouting anti-federalist sentiments.

Some British officials wryly noted a commitment in the letter to making European "decision-making processes more clearly understandable and transparent". Germany is blocking an attempt by Britain to allow Channel 4 cameras into council meetings.

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# Hearing told of S Africa's chemical weapons

David Beresford  
in Cape Town

A HEARING of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission into the country's chemical and biological weapons programme was yesterday shown instruments of assassination weapons produced by scientists working for the apartheid government.

Jan Lourens, a bio-engineer who worked on the programme, told the commission that devices for killing opponents of the government included walking sticks and umbrellas which fired lethal pellets, syringes disguised as screwdrivers, and rings with a cavity for poison.

The hearings began after the government failed to persuade the commission to stage them behind closed doors. President Nelson Mandela's legal adviser, Fink Haysom, argued there was a danger that the hearings, if held in public, would lead to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. But a panel chaired by Bishop Desmond Tutu ruled that most of the evidence should be heard in public.

Scientists, doctors and military personnel have been called to testify. They include Walter Basson, the biologist who headed the programme. He faces prosecution on charges including conspiracy and incitement to murder, the manufacture of illegal drugs, and fraud.

Dr Lourens told the commission he had been transferred from the air force to a "special operations" unit within the army's special forces in 1984. The unit was staffed almost entirely by doctors. He recalled how he had put together a special radio network for members of the unit, and supplied them with souped-up cars and compact assault rifles.

He described experiments at top-secret laboratories involving testing a "new generation" of tear-gas on baboons and attempts to develop ways of reducing the birth-rate among blacks. But he insisted the work was done on a need-to-know basis and he did not know the details.

He said he had been involved in the production of the

assassination instruments, which he described as applicators. Several of the devices, including "needle tubes", were produced as exhibits. Dr Lourens said the tubes, which could be incorporated into an umbrella or walking stick, were spring-loaded and used to inject poison.

A second version of the umbrella/walking stick fired a small ball. "This ball would have a number of holes drilled into it, so you would be able to pack a toxic substance into the ball," said Dr Lourens.

The ball would be fired into the back of the victim's leg and "the person would feel something like a bee sting". Polycarbonate was used because it was difficult to pick up on x-rays.

Dr Lourens recounted how he had taken one of the instruments and two vials of a chemical to Britain with instructions to deliver it to a man called Trevor whom he was to meet at a railway station. They went to a South African safe house near Ascot, in Berkshire.

"At the cottage I demonstrated to him how the mechanism worked. I opened one of the vials... I somehow split some of the substance on to my hand. I don't know how it happened, but I wiped my mouth. I lost consciousness very quickly. There was a bathroom. I recall going into the bathroom and there being a bottle of Dettol, which I drank. With hindsight I have no idea why I drank the Dettol. At that stage I, to a large extent, lost my sight and the Dettol of course induced a lot of vomiting. I woke up a period later."

He said he had reported what had happened to doctors at the special operations unit but they did not believe he would have survived.

Dr Lourens told the commission he had been involved in negotiations with foreign buyers for the sale of weapons technology. One was a customer who wanted a nerve agent called VX but the deal fell through. He did not know which country the would-be buyer was from.

He said he was a Syrian who was buying technology. He introduced him to another South African scientist who, he believed, visited Syria. The hearing continues.



President Boris Yeltsin arrives in Germany on a two-day visit to seek help from Chancellor Helmut Kohl to keep Russia's financial crisis under control. He praised Mr Kohl as a true friend and added that the two would be able to resolve his country's problems

## Kohl's spin doctor swallows bitter pill

Ian Traynor in Bonn reports on the new spokesman whose insults are costing the chancellor good will and potential votes

A STRANGER to the dark art of political propaganda, Otto Hauser has spent his first two weeks as Chancellor Helmut Kohl's new spokesman gyrating out of control to such an extent that he has given the term spin doctor a new meaning.

He has insulted German Jews, lectured east Germans on how to vote, rudely refused to speak a foreign language, reduced the normally polite and staid Bonn press corps to giggling incredulity, and brought only damaging headlines for a chancellor in a mid-election campaign.

Yesterday Mr Hauser pro-

trated himself before the German and international media, ate humble pie, and promised to be on his best behaviour from now on.

"I'll stick to the conventions and concentrate on reporting the government's work so that there is no more irritation in the future," he said.

In a surprise move two weeks ago, Mr Kohl summarily dismissed his spokesman of three years and brought in Mr Hauser in the hope of reviving a flagging and lacklustre election campaign. The result has been nothing but trouble.

Mr Hauser is also an MP in

Mr Kohl's Christian Democratic Union and has been struggling to distinguish between the two roles.

Unable to believe their good fortune, the opposition Social Democrats have not even needed to capitalise on the Hauser gaffes because senior government figures have been loudly and publicly deploring their own spokesman's behaviour.

Wolfgang Schäuble, Mr Kohl's designated successor, said Mr Hauser was talking "nonsense". Volker Rübe, the defence minister, was similarly agitated at the spokesman's blunders.

Mr Hauser speaks reason-

able English but when asked last week by the English service of German public broadcasting for an interview in English, he barked: "Go and get a translator... I don't see why I should answer questions in any other language."

He bowed and scraped yesterday, apologised to the radio reporter, and offered interviews in English or any other language he can speak.

That gaffe followed unsolicited tips to east Germans on how to vote in September's general election. West Germans, he told them, were fed up with the east Germans' bad habit of voting for former communists and might need to reconsider stumping up the cash for the reconstruction of the east.

Earlier he had repeatedly insisted that east Germany's

reformed communists were no better than Adolf Hitler's Nazi party, even when pressed on the fact that the Nazis orchestrated the murder of 6 million Jews.

"I was not trying to compare Nazi crimes to east Germany," he then declared after the storm of protest. "I regret that my comments were misunderstood."

With the calls mounting by the day for him to be sacked, Mr Kohl was forced to defend his spokesman while also taking a sideswipe at some of his utterances.

Mr Hauser looks likely to survive for the time being. Although he has harmed Mr Kohl, sacking the spokesman after only two weeks would have seemed even more desperate than the decision to appoint him in the first place.

## Slovaks start 'unsafe' reactor

Kate Connolly in Prague

SLOVAKIA has started running a reactor at a newly built nuclear power plant even though a team of international scientists warned last month that it failed basic safety standards.

The Mochovce power plant in western Slovakia has for years strained relations with Austria, whose border is only 72 miles from the plant. Vienna says the reactor is unsafe.

Wolfgang Kromp, an Austrian professor who led the inspection team to Mochovce last month, said activation of the fuel rods at such an early stage could lead to "the biggest accident imaginable".

But a spokesman for the plant said Slovakia's Nuclear Supervisory Bureau had approved the activation and that the reactor had been commissioned early yesterday morning. Mochovce is expected to be operating at full capacity by July 21.

The Austrian parliament

reacted angrily. Chancellor Viktor Klima said he had received no word from the Slovak prime minister, Vladimir Meciar, despite a promise that he would be contacted if the plant was activated. "It is an irresponsible and unfriendly act," he said.

Although Austrian politicians want to show how angry they are, they are wary of sounding alarmist. But towns and villages in the north-east have reportedly been issued with iodine tablets and are being taught evacuation drills.

Newspaper reports have warned the Viennese that they would have 10 hours to leave the capital.

Work began on Mochovce, Slovakia's second nuclear plant, in the mid-1980s but was halted in 1989 because of financial difficulties. Completion was made possible after Bonn guaranteed a loan on condition safety standards were met.

Mochovce was originally made to Soviet design, but was upgraded in line with International Atomic Energy Agency recommendations. But last month's inspection team judged that it did not even meet Russian or Slovak standards, let alone Western ones.

## Ex-wife of Gucci 'linked to death of stepfather'

John Hooper in Rome

THE last lover of the murdered fashion tycoon Maurizio Gucci is due to take the stand today at the Milan trial of his former wife, Patrizia Reggiani Gucci, who is accused of paying for him to be killed.

Paola Franchi's testimony has taken on a sensational new significance with reports that Mrs Reggiani is now under investigation over the death of her stepfather 25 years ago. Fernando Reggiani, like Gucci, was a rich man who died apparently intestate.

In a statement to police, Reggiani's disinherited adopted son has claimed that Patrizia Reggiani and her mother had his father poisoned. Police are considering excluding Reggiani's body.

The case against Mrs Reggiani has rested mainly on the assumption she was driven by spite. Scant attention has been paid to the threat her former husband's developing relationship with Ms Franchi posed to her two daughters' future wealth.

Gucci, the last member of his family to run the fashion empire that bears his name, was shot dead in Milan three years ago. Mrs Reggiani is charged with conspiring with her best friend, Giuseppina Auremma, and the night porter of a one-star hotel, Ivano Savioni, to have him killed.

Mrs Reggiani denies her role in the murder. She admits having spoken of wanting Gucci dead, but claims Ms Auremma and Mr Savioni paid for the assassination so they could blackmail her.

Orazio Cicala, who has admitted driving the getaway car, has testified that the man accused of pulling the trigger, Benedetto Ceraulo, was not the hit man.

Mrs Reggiani's disinherited stepbrother, Vincenzo Reggiani, told police that after his father became ill with cancer Patrizia's mother brought in a doctor who gave him an injection. Newspapers quoted Vincenzo as saying: "A few seconds later he began to gasp. Red spots broke out all over his face, and he died."

He claimed to have overheard Patrizia's mother ask the doctor: "All done?"

## French TV in turmoil as chief bids bitter adieu

Paul Webster in Paris

THE farewell note that the head of France's state-run television news sent to his staff at the weekend left no doubt about his feelings for what he called the "odious" hypocrites, troublemakers, backsliders and mediocrities who had driven him to resign after only 10 months in the job.

Yesterday Albert Du Roy, the editor-in-chief at FR2, revealed that reporters, presenters, production staff and management had come to blows in a climate where "hatred was almost palpable and perversity had developed into a work of art".

Mr Du Roy, a veteran television interviewer and former magazine editor, was brought into the troubled network to counter its more popular commercial rival, TF1. The two networks broadcast their main news bulletins simultaneously, with the private station taking twice as many viewers.

France's state network has been a long-running soap opera since the broadcasting monopoly ORTF was split into three in 1974. One of the stations, TF1, was privatised in 1987, leaving FR2 and FR3 run by the state.



Departing editor Albert Du Roy (left) called news presenter Daniel Balian his chief enemy in a vituperative farewell

Almost every month there is a story of government interference, internal backstabbing and crippling strikes at the state network.

In contrast to others who left in silence, Mr Du Roy identified his chief enemy as the station's top news presenter, Daniel Balian.

He told the newspaper Liberation: "They [the news team] can't discuss anything without shouting at each other or accept an agreement without swearing. Any act of authority is considered scandalous, and foot-dragging is the general rule. From top to

bottom, conservatism is king."

Mr Du Roy said he had made a mistake in sacking "the kind but undynamic" presenter Bruno Masure, who viewers then chose as their favourite news reader. He had also underestimated "the arrogant contempt of Balian", whom he linked with critics determined to see that reforms would fail.

Mr Du Roy said his attempts to produce more serious reporting were undermined by demands for higher ratings to justify more advertising.

## A threat to family values, or a lorra lorra laughs? Why Polish Blind Date gives minister a hot flush

Nell Bowdler in Warsaw

THE Polish version of the television dating show Blind Date has come under fire from the Solidarity-led government for advocating free sex at taxpayers' expense.

Ranika w ciemno, which is shown weekly, on public television, tops a list of programmes cited as undermining traditional Roman Catholic values in a report by the family affairs minister, Kazimierz Kaspera.

The programme is responsible for "enticing young people to spend a night together in a hotel at the licence-payers' expense

with a partner chosen at random in front of a studio audience".

Only the Catholic press and radio escape censure in the report, which is due to be presented to cabinet next week. It accuses the media of degrading society rather than "helping citizens to nurture love for their fatherland and respect for the family".

Women's magazines are lambasted for images of "egotistical" career-driven women averse to child-rearing which allegedly tear young women away from their natural convictions.

Recent high-profile media campaigns aimed at countering domestic vio-

lence are berated for casting men as "alcoholics beating and raping their wives and sexually molesting their children".

One of Mr Kaspera's proposed remedies is to reward "pro-family" media organisations through tax relief.

Poland's Blind Date show is innocuous by Western standards, bereft of the raucous and sexual innuendo of the American and British versions.

Edyta Krasowska, the show's producer, said she was surprised by the attack. "It's clean, honest fun; an opportunity to hand over the stage to young people and for them to see a bit of the world for free."

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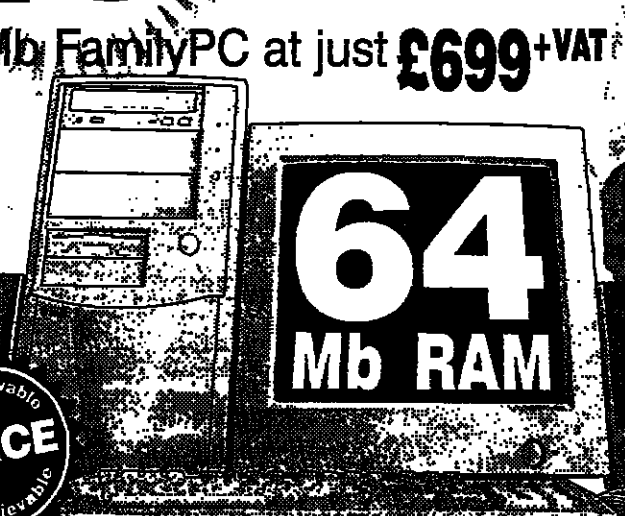
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# Prescott faces sacrifice

## Air-traffic sale is price for roads deal

Keith Harper  
Transport Editor

A £500 million privatisation of air traffic control emerged last night as the price for a roads deal. The deal, which would see the sale of National Air Traffic Services, responsible for policing the skies over Britain, would bring him in the money he needs to revamp public transport.

Spending Review, due by July 14. Mr Prescott has been told that the sale of National Air Traffic Services, responsible for policing the skies over Britain, would bring him in the money he needs to revamp public transport.

Transport and environmental groups expressed concern at a further publication postponement for the white paper. They said that it could affect Mr Prescott's plans to legislate next session on key issues such as pollution and rail privatisation.

The public is expecting some action, but there is a limit. If the Government does not act soon, it will turn public opinion against it. Part of the extra money will be spent on the roads bill, not so much on new roads as on maintenance. Although this will please the roads lobby, it will not be received with enthusiasm elsewhere, since Mr Prescott's emphasis has been to get people out of cars and on to public transport.

The privatisation of air traffic services has been a political hot potato since before the election. During the campaign Labour leaders did not rule it out, but for the past 12 months the issue had been pigeon-holed. Mr Prescott may be able to overcome pressure by turning the company into a trust, with a board made up of business people who would be able to raise money on the commercial market to run it.

The delay to the white paper also hides other problems, not only on what to do with rail, but on the delicate issue of car-parking charges. This part of the policy has not even been finalised and may have to wait until the last minute. Ministers are divided on how wide the application of congestion charging should be. They seem agreed that local authorities should be allowed to impose congestion charges but some of them want to extend charges to supermarkets and out-of-town shopping centres.

### Notebook

## Tumbling yen has world in a spin

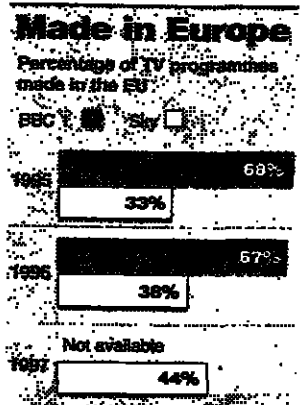


Edited by  
Alex Brummer

THE collapse of the yen against the US currency is a serious new blow to the Asia strategy of the West. At the point at which one dollar buys more than 140 yen, with some speculation that it could eventually get to 150 yen, the whole basis on which Asia has been stabilised by the International Monetary Fund starts to unravel.

global capital are, from time to time (Mexico in early 1995, Asia last year) wreaking havoc with the world's financial system. The problem for the BIS and central bankers (at least in the rich bit of the world) is that they cannot suddenly say "enough is enough". After all, free markets and free movement of capital are the orthodoxy by which many have lived for two decades. Tricky to turn round now and say that free markets may not be the most efficient way of allocating resources.

## Brussels leans on Murdoch



## Sky still falling short on quota of material made in Europe

Simon Beavis

BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster 40 per cent owned by Rupert Murdoch, yesterday defended itself against fresh criticism that it is failing to meet strict Brussels rules on the broadcast of programmes made in Europe.



Closet queens... Kirstie Alley, right, and Kathy Nagymy in Veronica's Closet, a new BSkyB offering from across the Atlantic destined for Sky One

Figures out yesterday showed that, in 1997, 44 per cent of programmes on Sky One, the main channel, were of European origin. This is against a stipulation in the European "television without frontiers" directive that half the output should be made in Europe, where practicable.

Figures show that Sky One has moved closer to that goal year on year, rising from just 13 per cent in 1993 to 14.5 per cent a year later, then 33 and 38 per cent in 1995 and 1996.

Last month Culture Secretary Chris Smith made a biennial filing to the Commission on how well all British broadcasters were doing to meet the directive's requirements. He pointed out that he had powers under the Broadcasting Act to penalise those consistently failing to include, ultimately, removal of licences.

But BSkyB insisted yesterday that it was making consistent progress towards fulfilling quotas. A spokesman said that there had been a three-fold increase in European programming on Sky One and heavy investment in domestic production. "There are thousands of hours of European-originated material which is excluded under the directive including live sport, live news and live events," he said.

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport yesterday played down suggestions that there was likely to be action on the issue and admitted that their two-year filing of the figures had been overtaken by the new figures. "Sky are getting there very quickly. There is no question of losing their licence," the spokesman said.

## Intel charged with abuse of its power over patents

Mark Tran in New York reports on the US Federal Trade Commission's challenge to world's leading chip-maker

THE US Federal Trade Commission yesterday filed an anti-monopolies suit against Intel, accusing the world's leading chip maker of abusing its power in patent disputes with computer makers.

The FTC alleged that Intel illegally used its market power when it denied three of its customers access to technical information necessary to develop computer systems based on Intel chips and took other steps to punish them for refusing to license key patents on Intel's terms.

"As a monopolist, Intel can compete by producing better, cheaper and more attractive products. It cannot act to cement its monopoly power by preventing other firms from challenging its dominance," said William Baer, director of the FTC's Bureau of Competition. "Intel has acted illegally. It has used its monopoly power to impede innovation and stifle competition."

The commissioners voted three-to-one to go ahead with an anti-trust suit after FTC staff last week recommended the action. Intel promised to fight the suit, saying that the future of one of America's most successful hi-tech companies was at stake.

In filing a suit against Intel, the US government has called

into question the monopoly power of two of America's hi-tech titans. The Justice Department last month filed an anti-trust suit against computer software giant Microsoft, which controls 90 per cent of the computer operating software market. The department accused Microsoft of abusing its dominance of operating systems to gain an advantage in competition on the Internet. The government's case against Microsoft goes to court in September.

The FTC's case against Intel focuses mainly on Intel's behaviour towards customers. It is accused of denying key information from computer makers such as Digital, Compaq and Intergraph. The FTC's suit is based on these two companies' own legal actions against Intel.

The two companies alleged that Intel demanded they return vital technical information after the companies sued Intel for patent infringement. Intel does not dispute moving to restrict access to information during the disputes. It insists, however, that this was legal and proper to keep proprietary information from rivals. Without Intel's microchips and specifications about how they work, computer makers are unable to build the machines powered by Intel chips, and could be driven out of business.

The government will argue that Intel has to play by different rules because it enjoys monopoly power. Two months ago, federal judge Edwin Nelson issued a preliminary injunction in the Intergraph case, finding that Intel is an "essential facility," or a vital resource like a utility.

Intel, with worldwide annual sales of \$20.8 billion (\$12.7 billion), controls 90 per cent of the chip market.

The judge concluded that Intel was obliged to supply Intergraph with the technical information and sample chips to make its workstations. Intergraph's suit contends that Intel used its muscle in trying to gain access to certain patented microprocessor technologies for which Intergraph owned the rights.

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## Saatchi return to roots as marketing arm is sold

Tony May

SAATCHI & Saatchi yesterday sold its Siegel & Gale marketing and communications business to its American management yesterday for \$20.4 million.

A spokesman said the sale was part of a plan by the UK advertising agency to return to the roots of the business. It now sees agencies as purely suppliers of creative input.

This challenges the great idea of the 1980s, the One-Stop Shop. This formula held that top agencies like WPP, Omnicom, Interpublic and True North should offer a multiple network to avoid client conflict and be able to offer brand owners services ranging from recruitment to printing.

Now that Saatchi & Saatchi has demerged from the US empire assembled by the founding Saatchi brothers — long since departed to their rival M&C Saatchi agency — it needs a vision.

It now argues that apart from the issue of client conflict, there is little to distinguish one giant advertising conglomerate from another. It believes that a client's primary need is a creative agency, an ideas company, a boutique — someone who can rejuvenate a brand. Siegel & Gale — which will become the world's biggest independent branding and corporate identity consultancy — has a blue-chip client list including Kodak, Caterpillar, Halifax and Toys 'R' Us.

## Factory prices likely to fall

Mark Atkinson  
Economics Correspondent

INFLATION in industry has plunged to a 31-year low as hard-pressed factories are forced to hold down prices to compete, according to official figures published yesterday.

Analysts said trends in producer output prices suggested they would soon start falling, with a knock-on effect on the cost of goods in the high street.

Some City economists argued that the data showed the Bank of England's decision to raise interest rates last week was mistaken, although others said the deflationary impact of falling goods prices would be outweighed by rising service-sector inflation.

Underlying producer output prices — excluding food, drink, tobacco and petrol, which can be distorted by changes in Budget excise duties — were flat in the year to May for the first time since summer 1967, according to the Office for National Statistics. This followed a 0.3 per cent rise in the year to April.

City economists said the May figures reflected the weakness of manufacturers' input prices — the cost of raw materials and fuel — which were down 8.9 per cent over the year.

However, Simon Briscoe of Nikko Europe said firms were unable to increase factory-

gate prices because of the intensity of competition from cheaper imports.

The strong pound is also allowing foreign firms to undercut domestic producers. Jonathan Lloyne, UK economist at HSBC Markets, said forward-looking surveys suggested producer output prices would move into negative territory over the coming months, confirming that deflation was creeping along the goods pipeline. "Core retail goods inflation should fall below zero soon," he said.

Neil Parker of Royal Bank of Scotland said the producer output figures indicated that last week's rise in interest rates to 7.5 per cent, designed to keep inflation on course for the Government's target of 2.5 per cent, had been unnecessary.

The main cause of the deflationary pressures in the economy is now the Government, according to the Trades Union Congress. In a paper today, the TUC says the Government and the Bank are pushing up prices with higher indirect taxes and interest-rate increases. Underlying price inflation is not taking off, it says.

The pace of retail sales growth slowed to 3.7 per cent in the year to May from 5.7 per cent in the year to April, said the British Retail Consortium. BRC economic adviser BRG Rosewell said: "These figures give no support to the proposition that interest rates need to rise to slow down inflation."

### Basle wobbles

THE uncertainty coming out of Asia is making the world a much tougher place for all policymakers as the annual report from the Bank for International Settlements (the central bankers' club) makes clear.

Their world is becoming more volatile. The rip tides of

## Exchange follows fashion with its first advertising campaign

Pauline Springgett

YOU might have thought commuters had suffered enough, but from today weary train passengers will have to face more than the usual lengthy delays, overcrowding and byzantine ticketing system.

Two hundred railway stations across Britain will display posters advertising the delights of London's Stock Exchange. The campaign, which will also appear in newspapers and on a Web site, is the first launched by the Exchange.

Details of the campaign were being kept under wraps last night, although a spokeswoman said the aim was to encourage people to consider the market as a long-term channel for investment.

It is unclear whether there will also be a reminder that investing in shares can be precarious, and Black Monday is unlikely to feature in the copy.

There will, no doubt, be those who believe the adoption of a high-profile advertising campaign by one of Britain's oldest and most sober financial institutions is beyond the pale.

But the Stock Exchange's decision may be driven by that old-fashioned motive — enhancing business.

It could be that the Exchange has woken up to the competition from worldwide stock markets, especially from the United States and Europe.

For instance, Nasdaq, the US's third-largest stock market, has recently run a highly successful television campaign in the United Kingdom.

TOURIST RATES — BANK SELLS

Australia 2.67	Austria 13.84	Germany 2.814	Malaysia 6.47	Singapore 2.74
Belgium 36.22	Greece 161.97	Hong Kong 12.30	Netherlands 3.16	South Africa 8.20
Canada 2.31	Ireland 16.38	India 88.38	New Zealand 3.15	Spain 128.17
Cyprus 0.852	Israel 1.119	Italy 2.600	Norway 1.85	Sweden 12.54
Denmark 10.41	Japan 15.97	Portugal 208.06	Poland 2.248	Switzerland 2.248
Finland 6.65	Korea 1.200	Saudi Arabia 6.02	Turkey 405.820	USA 1.6200
France 6.44	South Korea 1.200	Taiwan 2.200	UK 1.000	

Supplied by Reuters (excluding rupee, shekel and mollar)



## Diary

Matthew Norman

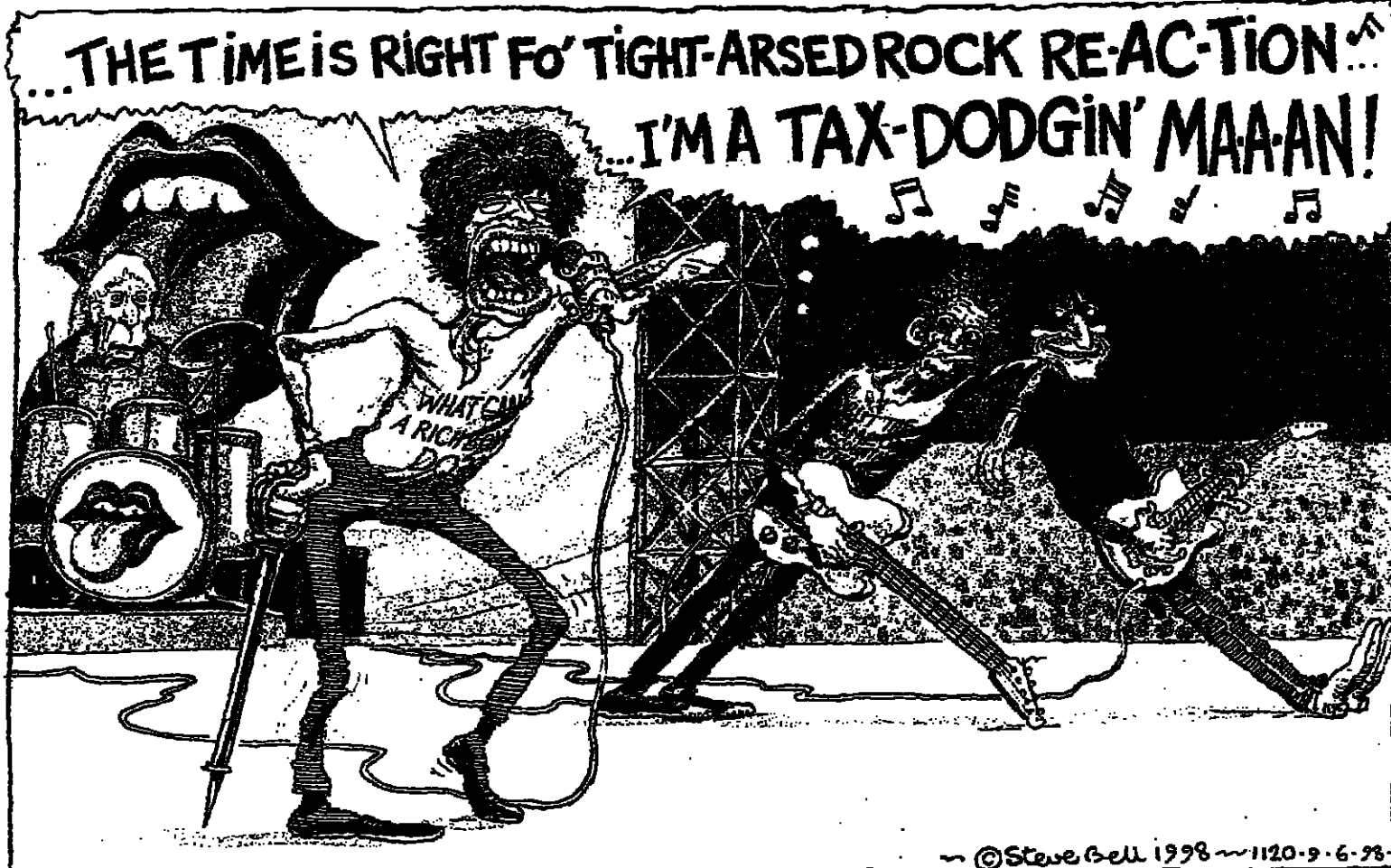
A CONTENDER steps forward in the race for Most Amazing Marketing Strategy of 1998. The nominee is US cosmetics firm Aveda. The naming of brands is a vital area of business life on which companies routinely spend countless hours and tens of thousands. Sensible of its importance, Aveda set about naming a new hand cream... a most remarkable achievement to judge by the press release. The application of a heavy layer at night, allowing the nutrient vitamins and age-defying anti-oxidants to soak well in, will have a rejuvenative effect, it appears, on even the tireddest and most pitiful of mitts. Of Vitamins A and E, and exfoliating fruit acids (for long lasting softness) I will say no more. Suffice it that 95 per cent of test subjects noticed an overall improvement in smoothness and general hand quality. With such a wondrous product, choosing the right name must have been an intensely arduous task, but who will say that time and money was mispent? Ladies and gentlemen, prepare to welcome into your bathroom cabinets... Hand Relief by Aveda.

THE travel section of the Jewish Chronicle enjoys a coup. "David Lightman," says the standard for a piece headlined Around the Horn, "says Eritrea is a truly memorable destination." The country, he reports, is virtually crime free, and "the streets are safe at all hours... all disarmingly innocent." Enjoy.

I AM shocked to the point of age by Brian Sewell's London Evening Standard review of Paul Johnson's exhibition. I did not manage to make it to the Fulham Road myself on Thursday, but Mr Sewell—who professes himself fond of the old chump—did. Oh dear, oh dear. "The bigger the sheet of paper the worse, far worse, the quality with figures as ungainly as those of Lowry and Utrillo, and perspective, aerial and linear, that drifts hither and yon in Johnson's profound incompetence," writes the critic. Thank God my sane and rational friend is a big enough man to take criticism. "In mounting this exhibition, Johnson has committed an act of folly to match George Michael's public masturbation and the murder of Mozart arias by Florence Foster Jenkins," concludes Mr Sewell. "Though much less amusing than these it is of the same order of impertinence and vanity."

WITH his committal proceedings almost a month away, Jonathan Aitken makes an unscheduled, very low key appearance in court. Jonathan popped into Bow Street yesterday morning to apply for variation of his bail conditions. Namely the one about surrendering his passport. Jonathan asked if his passport might be returned to him, so that he could visit the Arab state of Oman from June 12-16. "This request is a farce," Parkinson denied. "There was some discussion," says the clerk of the court. "Had you been in open court you would have heard it."

ONE man who may know more is Malcolm Pearson, the Europhobic Tory peer who recently revealed to Telegraph readers that Jonathan, his old friend from Eton, lied over his Paris Ritz bill to protect his work for MI6. Since Jonathan rubbished this curious account, we have since been seeking to establish the reliability of Lord P—the man who was visited, during a varicose vein operation, by a messenger from God. In 1994, meanwhile, after a conviction for refusing to give a breath test, the noble Lord told the Times of a police conspiracy... against wealthy chaps in general. "It's the joyriders and the young who are knocking people down. You won't find people being killed by upmarket businessmen"—and himself in particular. The conspiracy theory itself is too obscure to go into. Suffice it that the magistrate described him as "suspicious of the police to the point of mania." Lord Pearson to the witness stand. Call Lord Pearson of Rannoch...



## This is not Lords reform at all: it is a conspiracy of deluded rubbish

Hugo Young



THE REFORM of the House of Lords is all about power. What does this place exist to do? To fight, or to pounce about? To endorse or to challenge? To enrich democracy, or extend the life of the second chamber as a post-modern fig leaf for the excesses of the first? The Government is not prepared to give a clear answer to these questions. That's why Lord Richard, the leader of the Lords, devoted the Cabinet's first big speech on the subject yesterday not to the power but the people. Who shall sit there? It is the easy, but wholly distracting, issue.

Hereditary peers have no place in a legislature, and Lord Richard spent a long time saying so. He sounded like a man who thought he was uttering a sentiment of the profoundest radicalism. That argument, however, has been won, which is already an achievement. It is possible to construct a scenario where the old buffers play their own power-game. They could decline to comply with their expulsion and having nothing more to lose, scorch their inheritance and block the Government's programme. Though some life peers might become death peers, with Labour's worthless forced into months of all-night sessions to get the measures through, this is an option. But the Tories would have a hard time making it sound in any way legitimate. I don't think it will happen.

After the people, however, there is the power, and as to that, Lord Richard's opaque speech was a disguise for what promises to be a battle of attrition. Don't press us on the second stage of reform, he urged. One thing at a time. Let us create our nominated interim quango, though this must "be regarded as legiti-

mate", and its method of selection therefore modified. But, whatever then happened, the Lords "should exercise no more than its present powers". Its power "will remain unaltered". For it makes "an important contribution". It is "an essential part" of the legislature. His lordship said he could have extolled many more of the second chamber's virtues, except that this might imply that the first chamber "is not doing its job properly" — a charge, we're meant to smirkily understand, no peer would dare to level.

Such rolling unctuousness gives a taste of things to come. It was a catalogue of complacent fictions. The Lords, as presently powered, has very little function. Unless an election beckons, as in the rare case of the Police Bill last year, it has no leverage. It is not essential, or even important. Its work on Europe, touted as the peak of its scrutinising diligence, is, though competent enough, a nullity. Brussels, like Whitehall, offers a patronising glance and carries on regardless. The fabled expertise of the second chamber, though often impressive, is evacuated into the empty air admired by its exponents, greeted with mutual sycophancy, but of no importance to the nation. As for the power, therefore, must come first. Are these evasions ever to be allowed to count? Will the Lords be made into a body the government is forced, on moderately rare occasions, to listen to? Or will the conspiracy of deluded rubbish peddled by Lord Richard, which says how wonderful the Lords is and always will be as long as it has a different class of member, continue to seduce reformers?

Real reform would look something like this. The chamber would lose all its existing members, inherited and life. A new membership would be partly nominated, to meet the need for cross-bench expertise, but mostly elected, to supply minimal legitimacy. Both categories would be there for a fixed term, and the nominees could not have another. An electoral cycle would be constructed, with perhaps a third of the seats being vacated every three years of a nine-year term, to ensure a different pattern from the Commons. The new chamber, from which the designation "Lord" would disappear, would be more legitimate than now without being able to challenge the greater legitimacy of the Commons.

That is what the anti-reformers, among whom Lord Richard and Lord Irvine are evidently preparing to count themselves, depend on. It produces such puerilities as the latest offering from Demos, which says the legislative task is so serious that it should be handed to people chosen by lottery. The scheme outlined above, taken from what is still the most compact and rational reform proposal, by Jeremy Mitchell and Anne Davies (IPPR, 1993), is a more serious challenge to the claim, by Blair and Richard, that they want a Lords that is "more democratic and representative".

So far, they haven't tried. The opposite tendency, packing in the nominees, is well under way. The annual count of life peers has risen from eight in 1988 to no fewer than 91 in 1997. This caused no fuss. I haven't seen the number in print. More will follow this month, as the superquango, shorn of the birthright members, is readied for service. Its interim status defended by Lord Richard on the basis of a promise about the future which will acquire credibility only when some public shape is put on it. But that, in turn, depends on attitude. Is this new, reformed thing to be a theatre where chubmen posture and placemen are rewarded? Where accountability is a giant pretence, and revision merely a congenial performance? Or will it be designed to make government more careful, more apprehensive, and daily more intimate with the public interest? If not, the new second chamber will be an updated excrescence, worse than the old, and the best argument for burdening the public purse with only single-chamber government.

Lords reform is a subject replete with cranks and bores.

## Busybody's charter

Ros Coward



LAST week the House of Commons was enveloped in a thick smog. Demos had called together various "parenting" groups for a new initiative on Family Learning. Such a summons from those with the ear of government clearly felt like a huge endorsement for this sector. They have long believed they know how to put right society's ills. For some of us, however, it raised alarming prospects of an army of do-gooders about to be unleashed on society.

Certainly this gathering confirmed that "parenting" is a career with cast iron prospects. By parenting I don't mean having a child and looking after it but a new so-called profession which runs courses and teaches parenting "skills". Fostered by this government's predilection for parenting as cause and solution to most social problems, this sector faces continuous expansion. "Parenting" is at the heart of numerous government initiatives. Jean Corston MP is currently chairing an all-party parliamentary group on parenting the Home Office has its own family and parenting group; David Blunkett never misses an opportunity to lug parents into the arena — currently they are fingered in the national year of reading, school/home agreements, and homework targets. "Parenting skills classes" are part of the punishment package for Jack Straw's assault on youth crime; and in Scotland a government initiative is already under way to teach parenting skills to schoolboys.

In a culture where any attempts to prop up the family, encourage marriage, or teach morality instantly fall foul of the unruly and chaotic ways in which most of us live, "parenting" must seem like a squeaky clean alternative. It's gender free, child-friendly and superficially not directed at any particular class. But don't be misled. This is a moral reform crusade. Ed Straw, Jack's brother, revealed its underlying ideology when launching another Demos pamphlet last month. A new national relationship and parenting service should have the "same commitment to social improvement as the Victorian drive for universal schooling".

THIS language of moral revivalism was echoed at the House of Commons last week: a national strategy for parenting would "promote important social objectives". Good parenting would lay "foundations for 'social responsibility and self-discipline'".

Groups like the Parenting Education and Support Forum, the Parent Network, Parent Link, and Exploring Parenthood

are very effective within their existing limited objectives. They run courses which struggling parents find invaluable and operate help-lines. But as the likely source of expertise for new public initiatives they inspire dread. This area attracts a people with a mission to improve. Listening to their collective anguish over the cost to society of inadequate parenting it is impossible not to recall those busybody Victorian philanthropists determined to rescue the working classes from what they called "the promiscuous city".

And what precisely is on offer? Distilled down, the ideology of good parenting is quite simple — a mixture of common sense and insights from psychotherapy. The buzz words of positive parenting are boundaries, limit setting and affirmation. Bad parenting is inconsistent, unbounded, violent, inadequately supervised and focuses on the negative. This sounds fine but it is neither a universal panacea nor without problems. Anyone can learn the theory of positive parenting but few can live up to it. Like dieting, positive parenting can rapidly become just another failed good intention. There may not be anything wrong with the quality of a parent's love, however chaotic their parenting, and critical scrutiny is very undermining.

Some of us may also have encountered children raised to the letter of positive parenting — and what world class bores they are. These are the children whose parents pursue them with the requisite affirmative commentary. "Darling you are blowing your nose. It is a very loud blow. Now you are dropping your tissue on the floor. The floor is brown". The achievement-orientated then add the floor's measurements. Educational achievement, of course, is never far behind positive parenting. And thus Alexander, author of the pamphlet

### An army of do-gooders to be unleashed on disorderly families

launched last week, is to be congratulated for merging both obsessions into a bizarre amalgam called Family Learning: "supporting parents as children's first and most enduring educators could do more to raise educational achievement than any other single measure".

The parenting lobby almost certainly emerged because of the vacuum created by the overthrow of patriarchal family authority. With the crumbling of that authority and its external embodiments — the church, the authoritarian school and the patriarchal classes — parents often find themselves in difficulty, looking for new ways of rearing children without resorting to heavy-handed discipline. Many families want to learn more, and want people they can turn to. But they don't necessarily want their individual and practical interest to authorise a new moral vanguard bent on reforming the disorderly families of the lower orders.

As big business tightens its grip on the food-chain, an unlikely opponent steps into the fray

## Gene Prince

George Monbiot

THOSE of us who have been grumbling about genetically manipulated food for the past four or five years could be forgiven for occasionally succumbing to the sin of despair. While pressure groups have used every imaginable ruse to alert consumers and ministers to the hazards of the biotech companies' control of the food-chain, the Guardian was the only national newspaper consistently to have taken these dangers seriously.

This is a doubly difficult subject to cover, as it demands a degree of understanding of both economics and biology: most journalists were simply not prepared to tackle it. In the absence of concerted media scrutiny, the biotech companies seemed, until yesterday, to be winning almost every

battle they fought. Substantial public distrust had done little to obstruct their feverish progress towards the worldwide ownership of our most indispensable commodities. In just three years, for example, the biotech company Monsanto has secured 30 per cent of the American soya crop and 15 per cent of the maize crop. A series of gigantic acquisitions has culminated in its merger with American Home Products, to create a corporation worth \$96 billion, one of the largest firms on earth.

Such financial muscle enables the biotech companies to exert a remarkable degree of control over elected authorities. In the US, there's a regular exchange of personnel between Monsanto, the government's Food and Drug Administration and the Oval Office. The FDA has been described by campaigners as "Monsanto's Washington branch office".

In Europe, the biggest lobby of parliament ever conducted persuaded MEPs to adopt a new directive granting the biotech firms exclusive rights over genetic material patents, in other words, on life. When four British government conservation agencies, alarmed by

the potential ecological hazards of genetically engineered crops, called for a moratorium, Jeff Rooker, the agriculture minister, told them that there was nothing he could do. "I am not sure," he complained, "we are in the driving seat."

As Monsanto prepared to launch its £1 million advertising campaign last week, end, campaigners had the sinking feeling that the battle was all over bar the shouting. British people would continue to be fed genetically engineered food, whether we wanted it or not.

The Monsanto campaign is a masterpiece of Machiavellian subterfuge. Instead of simply trumpeting the virtues of its products, its advertisements claim that the company wants to stimulate a public debate on the issue, "to encourage a positive understanding of food biotechnology". What the adverts do not reveal is that this "debate" is purposeless. Monsanto's \$96 billion plan to conquer the world will go ahead whatever its respondents think. Having let the horse out, the company is inviting us to discuss whether or not the stable door should now be shut.

But today, its strategy

seems spectacularly to have misfired. In the Telegraph, Prince Charles took its call for debate at face value, writing: "We simply do not know the long-term consequences for human health and the wider environment... If something does go badly wrong we will be faced with

the problem of clearing up a kind of pollution which is self-perpetuating. I am not convinced that anyone has the first idea of how this could be done."

Suddenly, Monsanto has got the public debate it claimed it wanted. And it doesn't seem to like it at all.

George Monbiot last week received the One World National Press Award

the symbols of 'Ingerland'

Y

the symbols of 'Ingerland'

Y

the symbols of 'Ingerland'

Y

the symbols of 'Ingerland'

Y







# A stubborn dictator

**T**HE death of the Nigerian president General Sani Abacha, reportedly of a heart attack at the age of 54, elicited various reactions in his home country, a land he had ruled with unrelenting ruthlessness since he seized power in a palace coup on October 17, 1998. Many celebrated in the streets.

Some, especially those who benefited from the gargantuan corruption he instituted, mourned. All were shocked. Not because he died so "ordinarily", but on account of the suddenness of it all.

During the past year, rumours and newspaper reports on the poor state of his health never abated. The rumours were not helped by the reclusive nature of the dictator, who feared so much for his safety, and the drawn and worn look he presented during the few occasions he ventured outside Aso Rock, the heavily fortified seat of government in the capital, Abuja.

Abacha was born in Kano, the leading commercial centre in northern Nigeria. His parents were of the Kanuri ethnic group, who inhabit the north-eastern part of the country. After primary school, he attended the provincial secondary school (now government college) in Kano, enlisting in the army soon afterwards. His military training was initially at the Nigerian Military Training College in Kaduna in 1962, after which he attended Mons Defence Cadet College at Aldershot in 1963.

Less than three years after Abacha was commissioned, Nigeria got its first military government, headed by General JTG Aguiyi-Ironsi in January 1966. Six months later Abacha, then a lieutenant, was among the northern officers who carried out a counter coup in which Ironsi lost his life and General Yakubu Gowon became head of state.

Abacha fought on the federal side during the 30-month Biafran war and was reputed to be a brave soldier. Promoted to lieutenant-colonel in 1976, he became a brigadier five years later. It was in this rank, and as commander of the 9th Mechanised Brigade, that he came to national attention when on December 31, 1983 he announced the coup



He visited Nigeria with a brand of wickedness rarely seen in the annals of its history

of staff, the iron fist behind the military regime.

Abacha's day for the top job came in 1993 when Babangida annulled the presidential election won freely and fairly by Chief Moshood Abiola. Even though Abacha was one of those who engineered the annulment, he allowed Babangida to shoulder the blame alone and he swept away by the unpopularity it generated.

An interim government headed by Chief Ernest Shonekan, a civilian lackey of Babangida's, took over but sacked two months later by Abacha himself. Abacha promised a sov-

ern national conference when he took over power. He broke the promise. He promised that his tenure would be brief. He broke that promise too. Worst of all, he visited Nigeria with a brand of wickedness rarely encountered in the annals of Nigerian history. Abiola, who won the 1993 presidential election, was detained in 1994 and has remained in detention.

While he cooled his heels, assassins, suspected to be government-sponsored, killed his wife in the streets of Lagos. General Obasanjo, a former head of state, was jailed for "coup plotting" together with his deputy, General Shehu Musa Yar'Adua, who died in prison last December.

Leaders of oil workers who organised strikes in 1994 have remained in detention without trial. Opposition figures who escaped death and detention ended up in exile. In November 1995, Abacha caused international odium when he executed the writer Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other Ogoni activists.

What people found most difficult to understand was Abacha's stubbornness. Simply because President Nelson Mandela criticised the execution of Saro-Wiwa, Abacha prevented the Super Eagles, the country's soccer team, from defending their hard-won African championship in South Africa, thus earning a two-year ban from the Confederation of African Football (CAF). In March, Pope John Paul II visited Nigeria and gave Abacha a long list of whom he wanted released. Abacha simply ignored the list.

The most appalling thing about Abacha's leadership of Nigeria was his transition to the civil rule programme. He manufactured five political parties and had his cronies elected as their leaders. In April, all the parties "nominated" him the sole presidential candidate - which meant that had death not called, he would have been installed the "elected" president by October 1, 1998.

Abacha is survived by his wife and 10 children, the eldest, Ibrahim, a lawyer, having died in a plane crash in January, 1996.

Chuka Hoogbunam

Sani Abacha, soldier and politician, born September 20, 1943; died June 8, 1998



Bushwhacked... Fowley (left) makes his fury plain to Jean Hagen in *Singin' in the Rain*: 'We'll have to think of something else'

Douglas Fowley

## The happiest rain in Hollywood

**S**OME actors were born to be stars and some were born to play character roles.

Douglas Fowley, who has died aged 86, was one of the latter. He had rather oleaginous looks, shifty eyes and the sort of moustache that only Clark Gable could get away with. He was the image of how Hollywood imagined petty con-men. Western baddies and gangsters' henchmen to be, and consequently, these were mostly given.

Yet, his most famous role was as the exasperated film director Roscoe Dexter in *Singin' in the Rain* (1952). Dressed in riding boots, jodhpurs and beret, wielding a whip and megaphone, he was the type of dictator director made famous by Erich von Stroheim, although the character was actually modelled on Busby Berkeley, who

liked to demonstrate everything in a most expansive manner.

It is Roscoe, according to Gene Kelly's unreliable narration, who discovers Don Lockwood (Kelly) while he is performing impossible stunts, and who makes a leading man out of him, pairing him with Lina Lamont (Jean Hagen). Fowley's crowning moment comes when he is desperately trying to get the dim-witted Lina to "speak into the bush" where the microphone has been hidden.

"Well, I can't make love to a bush," she shrieks. Fowley then turns to the camera and explodes, "We'll have to think of something else!"

Another of Fowley's rare comic roles was as the auctioneer at the beginning of *The Band Wagon* (1953) attempting to sell off the property of fading dancer Tony Hunter (Fred

Astaire), including his top hat and tails. "Five dollars... one dollar... fifty cents... Anything?" Fowley cries.

Born in the Bronx, Fowley moved to California in his late teens and studied at Los Angeles City College, before entering the movies in 1933. His first role was as a member of a gang of bootleggers under Spencer Tracy in *The Mad Game*, beginning as he would continue on the wrong side of the law.

At 30th Century-Fox, he was content to have small roles in three Alice Faye musicals, and larger ones as rather too suspicious murder suspects in *Charlie Chan on Broadway* (1937) and *Mr. Moto's Gamble* (1938). Then at Warners, he dropped up as a rustler in Errol Flynn's first Western, *Dodge City* (1939), and MGM put him into uniform

in *Stand By for Action* (1943). *See Here, Private Hargrove* (1944) and *Battle-ground* (1949).

Like so many other supporting actors, Fowley found more substantial roles on television and from 1955 to 1961 played Doc Holliday opposite Hugh O'Brian in *The Life and Legend of Wyatt Earp*. Among his last films were *The Good Guys and the Bad Guys* (1969), in which he was a gentle, old hermit who brings lawmen George Kennedy and Robert Mitchum back to town to face a gang - and is killed for his trouble - and two unusual Charles Bronson movies: *From Noon till Three* (1976) and *The White Buffalo* (1977).

However, even after all these films, when people ask who Douglas Fowley might be, one has only to reply, the director in *Singin' in the Rain*, and

they'll know. In 1960, Fowley directed a low-budget voodoo movie called *Macumba Love*. It starred serial actor Walter Reed as a writer who visits a South American island to unmask murderous practitioners of voodoo, only to find he's marked down as a victim. The film, which had the publicity line "Blood lusts of the voodoo queen! In flaming Eastman color!" also featured Jane Wikison, a Playboy centrefold.

One likes to imagine Douglas Fowley (he added the V later in his career) in the gear of Roscoe Dexter, on location in Brazil, exclaiming when something didn't work, "We'll have to think of something else!"

Ronald Bergen

Douglas Vincent Fowley, film and television actor, born May 30, 1911; died May 21, 1998

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Sora Wainwright

## In the Russia house

**S**ORA WAINWRIGHT, who has died aged 76, was an artist and teacher who for more than 40 years with her Scottish husband, Willie, kept open house for visiting Russians and Yugoslavs. Her life was dramatic even before her birth.

Her pregnant mother had been snatched aboard one of the last ships to leave Odessa before the Bolsheviks took the city in 1921. Sora Balevich was born within an hour of docking in Glina, Yugoslavia and became the godchild of Queen Mary, who had come to greet the ship and gave her the Serbian Christian name, Zorislava.

Educated at the Smolny Institute, the Tsarist girls' school which had been evacuated from Petrograd to Yugoslavia, Sora was declared a "child genius in painting" by the headmaster, I. M. Suhotin. Tolstoy's son-in-law, and chosen to train in icon painting under Pimen Maximovich Sotnikov, who had been in the Tsar's icon workshop. It was gruelling work, which involved much fasting and praying but she graduated by painting two very beautiful

icons, which accompanied her for the rest of her life.

She studied fine art at Belgrade's Kolarchev University. Later interned in wartime Vienna, Sora was allowed the remarkable privilege of leaving the camp during the week to study architecture at the Technische Hochschule. She ended the war with her parents in a camp in the Austrian town of Liez.

There she met and soon married Willie Wainwright, a captain in the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who had liberated the camp. She accompanied Willie to Belgium, India and France while he served with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. En route Sora, at ease with anybody, met Eleanor Roosevelt and Indira Gandhi among others.

In 1957, the Wainwrights moved to Nottingham with their two French-speaking children. Willie had become an accountant for the National Coal Board's pension fund. Sora meanwhile, aged 65, and already an established painter, with a whole slew of exhibitions behind

her, started teaching art but, lacking formal qualifications, decided to go back to university, graduating in Slavonic studies from Nottingham University.

She then embarked on her second, or perhaps third career, teaching Russian and imbuing her students with a real love of the language. When she officially retired, her class followed her to lessons in her own home. She worked as a technical translator for many leading companies and, even when confined to a wheelchair, continued to interpret for the local police.

Near the end of her life, a pupil tracked down one of Sora's Russian relatives, who had never left Russia. Much to Sora's joy, the relative was a Minsk telephone operator and long - free conversations ensued.

Sora proved that one does not need to live in Russia to be a Russian. She is survived by three daughters, and a son.

Martyn Pollakoff

Sora Wainwright, artist and teacher, born July 1, 1921; died April 10, 1998

A Country Diary

**CHESHIRE:** Looking back through my notebook, references to moths are very thin. The only one to achieve anything like its usual numbers in the light trap was the Early Grey, which was taken regularly from early March into May. It is one of the commonest moths in Cheshire, having been recorded in each of the 31 10km squares on which Ian Rutherford's *Macro-moths of Cheshire 1961-1993* was based. April broke all the rainfall records and this was a disaster for the emerging moths as well as the butterflies, which meant that May was almost a non-event. There have been some brighter moments, such as the call I received recently to go and look at a "strange butterfly" that had appeared in a greenhouse in the village: it had a wing span of some three and a half inches and was, in fact, one of the hawk moths - the Poplar Hawk. Its grey-brown, sculptured wings were held in a distinctive posture, with hind wings pushed forward and the upper pair lying along its body. In this way it could cover the red patches on the hind wings, which would be quickly revealed when the insect was disturbed, and so momentarily, also, any would-be predator, giving the moth its chance to escape.

J M THOMPSON

### Birthdays

Tony Britton, actor, 74; Johnny Depp, actor, 35; Michael J Fox, actor, 37; Prof Geraint Gruffydd, Welsh and Celtic language authority, 70; Jeremy Hardie, chairman, WH Smith and Son, 60; Doug Henderson, MP, minister for Europe, 49; Prof Eric Hobsbawm, Marxist historian, 81; Richard Hudson, stage designer, 44; Derek Hunt, chairman, MFI Furniture, 58; Roger Hurst, chairman and chief executive, Smiths Industries, 60; Peter Kilfoyle, MP, parliamentary under-secretary, Cabinet Office, 52; Sir Nicholas Lloyd, former editor, the Daily Express, 56; Robert McNamara, former president, World Bank, 82; Michael Mates, Conservative MP, 64; Alice Pollock, dress designer, 56; Charles Saatchi, advertiser, 55; Steve Smith, cricket jockey, 48; Susan Strange, professor of international relations, 75; David Troughton, actor, 48.

### CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

IN some editions of today's G2, the Health pages are wrongly numbered. Page 16, which carries the feature on health frauds, became page 12.

IN The Editor (page 7, June 8) we reported allegations that sugar, water, acids and milk had been added to Margaux wine produced at Chateau Giscours to improve its flavour. We illustrated the item with a Chateau Giscours label, but in the text, by mistake, we referred to "Chateau Margaux". Chateau Margaux is entirely unconnected with these allegations, and we accept that its wines are of the highest quality. We apologise to Chateau Margaux, and for any confusion caused by our error.

IN a sidebar to an article on independent cinemas (Friday Review, June 5) an editing error resulted in us underestimating the programme content of Bristol's Watershed cinema. It should have scored eight out

of 10 in this category, not the published five. Apologies.

A REPORT on evidence to the BSE inquiry (page 11, June 5), should have said that cattle over 30 months old were barred from the human food chain two years ago, not under 30 months as stated.

THE amphibian and reptile specialist mentioned in an article on endangered wildlife (page 10, June 3) is employed by English Nature, not English Heritage as we stated.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Please quote date and page number. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 238 5289 between 11am and 5pm Monday to Friday. Surface mail to Readers' Editor, The Guardian, 119, Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Fax: 0171 239 5897. E-mail: readers@guardian.co.uk

### Death Notices

ALLEN, David Michael, born 25/10/1918, died peacefully at home on Friday 20 June, 1998, aged 79. He was the husband of the late Margaret, nee Purnell, and father to Judith, Kate, Penny and Phil. Funeral will take place at Ender and Devon Crematorium at 3.00pm on 18 June. No flowers please. Donations to St John's Methodist Church, Bangor, Gwynedd. Donations to Amnesty International or St John's Methodist Church, Bangor, Gwynedd. David Allen, 32a Brook Street, Bangor, Gwynedd.

BRADSHAW, Rosetta Freida, died on June 19, 1998, widow of Major J.B. Bradshaw, R.A. and loving mother of Mrs. Jean, Mrs. Margaret and Mrs. Anne. Donations to the Red Cross or the British Red Cross Society. Funeral on Saturday, 13th June, 1998 at 2 pm at St. John's Methodist Church, Bangor, Gwynedd. Donations to Woodland Trust or Gwynedd. Donations to Woodland Trust or Gwynedd. Donations to Woodland Trust or Gwynedd. Donations to Woodland Trust or Gwynedd.

GEANE, John, peacefully on 2nd June, 1998, much loved husband of Mary, loving father of Susan, Michael and Anne, dear brother of Margaret and loving grandfather of many. Donations to the Red Cross or the British Red Cross Society. Funeral on Saturday, 13th June, 1998 at 2 pm at St. John's Methodist Church, Bangor, Gwynedd. Donations to Woodland Trust or Gwynedd. Donations to Woodland Trust or Gwynedd. Donations to Woodland Trust or Gwynedd.

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# Vodka and tonic but no kebabs as George Best adds his traditional spice to a feast of football



Jim White

**T**EDDY Sheringham, blonde in hand, beer on the table, cigarette in mouth at dawn in a night club: what an image to soften George Best's heart. To see that after all this time his

favoured manner of preparation — the Beattie work-out — was still being adhered to by top players despite all the rival claims made these days by mineral water and early nights. He must be proud. But George has not been impressed by Teddy.

"No I'm not," the old roué said with a twinkle. "See, I never smoked."

Best has been much in demand this week, his opinion on the nocturnal habits of the England party reckoned to be the most pertinent among the small army of ex-professionals now touting themselves as pundits and wits. It is some- what unfair to cast him as an expert on all the Hod Squad's

peccadillos, of course. He was not one to be regularly caught on camera wearing a skirt. But what Beattie has to say on jeopardising it all for a crafty sharpened still carries resonance.

Certainly that is what more than 700 people, crammed into the South Bank's Queen Elizabeth Hall on Saturday afternoon, thought. They were all there as delegates to the Guardian-sponsored United Nations of Football, a day-long feast of music, theatre, dance, art and chat on the nature of the game. Hundreds of football enthusiasts were there. Which, if nothing else, proves we as a nation are now so obsessed with the

game we are prepared to give up an entire day to our passion even though there was not the slightest danger of seeing a ball kicked in anger.

Together with a session featuring George Weah, Best was the big draw of the day (some- how watching the Guardian team lose a football quiz did not quite compete). Such is the state of El Beattie's reputation these days it came as some- thing of a shock to a number of those in his audience that he turned up, on time and consid- erably more sober than many a prominent member of the judiciary. Indeed, give or take a couple of dozy moments when he mistook a very FC audience for a stag evening,

he was on sparkling form, a man at the peak of his, his second career: the one based on joking about how he messed up the first one.

True, there were a couple of familiar Beattie gags pulled from the greatest hits reper- toire. He seemed very keen to tell us the one about a man on the way to the theatre asking him which would he have pre- ferred to have done: scored a goal in the European Cup Final or slept with Miss World?

"I told him," said Best, tim- ing as sharp as if he was in front of goal at the Stretford End once again. "I don't have to choose."

But there were also stories

not heard before, including a better about Denis Law.

Apparently in a game at Stam- ford Bridge, Peter Bonetti had fumbled a shot from Best and dived to pick up the rebound. As he lay panting on the ground, relieved, the ball in his hands, Bonetti looked up to see someone hovering over him, poised. It was Law. "I'll always be here," Law said.

**M**AINLY, though, we were interested in Best's opinion of the England party and their behaviour. Did he ever eat kebabs in his day? "Nah," he said. "Didn't taste so good with a vodka and tonic."

There was, however, no boozing solidarity with Glenn Hoddle's decision not to put him on the plane to France. In the cauldron of a modern World Cup, he reckoned, lack of fitness and pace is a liability. The only shame of Gezza's absence might be the loss to morale.

"He's a very bubbly charac- ter around a training camp," said Best. "He could help lift everyone."

If pulling down trousers, belching in faces and laying turds in the pool raises spirits, it has to be wondered how low morale is in the England set- up? On Sheringham's and Dar- ren Anderton's alleged ca-

rousing last week, the old master blamed Hoddle. It was mad, he said, to let the players out of his sight at this moment. The Italians and the Germans, he said, lived like monks; Hod- die should make his players do the same. Which is an in- triguing insight into the pro- fessional footballer's capacity to resist temptation for himself.

"Still, I'm looking forward to this World Cup," Best said. "I'll be the best ever. There are so many players to get excited about."

And where will he be watching? "At home, like the rest of the country," he said. "I'll get a few in."

England v South Africa: first Cornhill Test, final day

## England see chance of a win washed away

**Mike Selvey from Edgbaston on a sad end to a match that pointed to a fine finish**

**F**OR once the possi- bility of the forecast- ers was spot on and shortly before 2.30pm yesterday the first Test was abandoned as a draw.

The anticipated rain began to drip shortly before the scheduled start of play and the Brumbrella was cranked

over the ground, there to remain. Cricket was never an option and the captains agreed to call it a day and get away early to try to avoid potential hold-ups from the lorry drivers' industrial action.

We shall never know, but the chances are that England were deprived of victory just as they probably were by last- day rain in Bridgetown two matches ago. They have a new captain but luck in that regard does not appear to have changed.

Although there had been no official declaration it is prob- able that Alec Stewart would have pulled the plug on the England innings at their over- night 170 for eight, leaving South Africa to score 280 to win in a full day's play.

### Final board

<b>ENGLAND</b>	
First innings	
M A Atherton c Kallis b Adams	77
M A Atherton c Boucher b Donald	100
T A Stewart c Kallis b Adams	40
N Hussain lbw b Adams	30
G P Thorpe b Pollock	10
M R Ramprakash b Donald	40
M A Ealham b Adams	40
D G Cork c Pollock b Donald	10
R D B Croft c Boucher b Donald	10
D G Cork not out	0
A A Donald c Croft b Pollock	5
A A Donald c Croft b Pollock	5
Extras (114, 104, 104, 104)	452
Total (181 overs)	462
Second innings	
M A Atherton c Boucher b Donald	77
M A Atherton c Boucher b Donald	100
T A Stewart c Kallis b Adams	40
N Hussain lbw b Adams	30
G P Thorpe b Pollock	10
M R Ramprakash b Donald	40
M A Ealham b Adams	40
D G Cork c Pollock b Donald	10
R D B Croft c Boucher b Donald	10
D G Cork not out	0
A A Donald c Croft b Pollock	5
A A Donald c Croft b Pollock	5
Extras (114, 104, 104, 104)	452
Total (177.5 overs)	343
Full of wickets 24, 31, 60, 145, 151, 171, 224, 228, 228	
South Africa	
First innings	
G P Thorpe c Boucher b Cork	12
M A Atherton c Boucher b Cork	3
N Hussain lbw b Donald	30
G P Thorpe c Boucher b Donald	70
M R Ramprakash c Boucher b Donald	30
M A Ealham c Boucher b Donald	10
D G Cork c Boucher b Donald	10
R D B Croft c Boucher b Donald	10
D G Cork not out	0
A A Donald c Croft b Pollock	5
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Flaming June... or words to that effect, as the hopeful few waited in vain, huddled under their colourful umbrellas, for play to start yesterday

hats off to them for that. This, after all, was the first Test of five and convention dictates that the series is treated as a whole.

England, remember, had lost the toss, batted in conditions that were a seam bowler's dream and made the best part of 500. Then, despite the loss of Gough to a finger injury that will keep him out of cricket for a month, they might have made South Africa follow on had Stewart not stumped Jacques Kallis on Saturday when he had 19 or had the young substitute Ben Spence come in to bat.

Now the sides know where they stand with each other. South Africa have batting depth, resilience and the

knowledge that the Lord's pavilion will become a lap-dancing emporium before Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock bowl as poorly as they did in this match. England, on the other hand, have a top order of class and for once were able to select, if not able to field, their first-choice pace attack.

Two England contributions had a significance above the rest, both of them having their genesis in Christchurch 18 months and a dozen Tests ago. Then Mike Atherton, with scores of 94 not out and 118, saw England to a remark- able win over New Zealand, before entering a slump that until this match had seen him

make only 456 runs in 22 com- pleted innings at an average of 20.

If ever there was a safe bet it was that Atherton, with a new challenge in his career now that he is reduced to the ranks, would respond. His century in the first innings here that made him Man of the Match saw him play as well as he could have done; his reverse sweep in the second innings was a telling comment on his state of mind.

But while Atherton was winning that match in Chris- tchurch Dominic Cork was struggling to come to terms with the rapid fall from the heights achieved against West Indies and South Africa.

Unlike Atherton, this was his first match back since then with injury and personal problems behind him. His selection, on the back of one decent spell on a Chesterfield afternoon, was down to the selectors seeing their job prop- erly by backing their judg- ment that the signs were there rather than demanding more proof.

Cork's five wickets brought them that Gough is the face paint and the theatricals, leaving an embittered bowler with the capacity to make things happen. The side is in- finitely better for his presence.

It is possible that Cork and Angus Fraser responded to

the additional responsibility and worked hard upon them by the injury to Gough — but the Yorkshireman will be missed at Lord's.

His broken finger raised one question that will not be addressed at next week's In- ternational Cricket Council meeting but which must crop up some time. Cricket allows substitutes to field but not to bat or bowl. However, provided like is replaced with like (a fast bowler with an- other, and so on) and a way is found to monitor the sort of sharp practice that might in- duce spurious injuries in, say, under-performing bowlers, a change is inevitable.

much of the next week will be occupied by the In- ternational Cricket Council's annual meeting at Lord's, with the adoption of a Test world championship central to the agenda.

David Richards, the ICC's chief executive, would not expand upon proposals con- sidered over the past year by a working party but sug- gested: "Test cricket needs to have a focus and we feel that we have a package that can give the game a boost."

Experimental forms of cricket intended to appeal to a younger audience are also much in vogue, and there will be an undertak- ing to amalgamate two games that have evolved in the southern hemisphere: Cricket Max, the brainchild of the former New Zealand captain Martin Crowe, and the Super 8 game being pro- moted in Australia.

## Stewart on the front foot in declaration of intent

**David Hopps on a ray of sunshine amid the Edgbaston gloom as the new England captain points to an attacking approach**

**A**LEC STEWART left a bedraggled Edg- baston yesterday afternoon at least that he had been presented with an instant opportunity to emphasise the team ethic that he regards as essential to the success of his England captaincy.

England's vigorous second-innings batting, as they chased an overnight declaration, was a refresh- ing approach that has im- mediately placed Stewart's leadership in a positive light and emphasised his authority over a dressing- room happy to respond to his demands.

"Everyone was prepared to risk getting out for the sake of the team," Stewart said. "The idea was to get enough runs by the close and give ourselves all the final day to bowl South

Africa out. We told every- body that if they failed it wouldn't be held against them in selection."

The ability to disregard personal objectives for the good of the team whenever necessary might be regarded as a fundamental cricketing principle that invariably should have been cultivated since childhood.

Lamentably, though, the pressures of modern Test cricket ensure that no country can entirely assume that this is the case. Long-term personal aspira- tions, insecurities, media criticism and financial con- siderations can occasion- ally tempt even the most team-oriented player into an excessive regard for his own self-preservation.

Stewart set the tone and, as a new captain, he had

the greater security to do so, his briefly adventurous innings was much in character. He has always been one to lead from the front.

He confirmed that Eng- land had declared over- night even though their lead of 289, although im- posing, was not invulner- able. "I didn't think that South Africa would score 280," Stewart said, "and if they had, good luck to them."

The handover of the Eng- land captaincy has been a seamless transition. Michael Atherton, who finished the tour of the West Indies careworn and ex- hausted, returned to the ranks in such spritely fash- ion that he was named man of the match. The only drawback for Atherton was that his performances here

committed him to two more media conferences in the space of three days when he had vowed to give them up for life.

Hansie Cronje, South Africa's captain, envisaged his side's own chances of "snaking a win" had rain not prevented play on the final day, but his chief concern surrounded the form of his new-ball pair Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock.

Both Donald and Pollock consistently failed to make use of encouraging con- ditions and their lack of rhythm was even more marked considering that both have gained substan- tial experience of Edg- baston while playing for Warwickshire.

South Africa's plan to rest Donald and Pollock in between Tests has been abandoned until they redis- cover something approach- ing their best form. Both are likely to play against Sussex at Hove in the three- day game beginning on Fri-

day. "They just need a good work-out," Cronje said. "They are world-class bowlers and they will be back."

Warwickshire's own de- briefing will dwell upon the

crowd-control problems which resulted in a record number of people being ejected — more than 100 over the four days — and complaints from several of their own regular stewards about heavy-handed behav- iour from the Manchester security firm Ned Kelly's, who were brought in as reinforcements.

One elderly dressing- room steward complained of being manhandled as he walked on to the outfield to deliver a message to the South African Brian McMillan.

The Rea Bank stand was particularly unruly. Praised a year ago by the England team for their cour- teous and uplifting sup- port during the Test victory against Australia, they have since degenerated markedly. Several mind- numbing hours were passed on Sunday offering morose, drunken chants in praise of a blow-up, plas- tic dinosaur (Dino from The

Flintstones, apparently), and one did not need to be a dinosaur to become heart- ily sick of it.

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Stewart... positive start

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France 98 Aces and wild cards

# Batigol provides the beef

Led by the prolific Fiorentina striker, Argentina have the look of champions. Paddy Agnew reports

**G**ABRIEL Batistuta turned up at an abattoir near Florence for a promotional shoot recently. One of his sponsors had come up with an idea linking him with the product for which his country is famous — beef. A television crew had been down in from London and journalists from the world's news agencies were there.

All was set fair until Batistuta's agent arrived. He pointed out that his client had a contract to promote Argentinian beef and could not be seen doing the same for the Italian variety. What the sponsor did not point out was that the 29-year-old Batistuta is a serious beef farmer in his own right. Along with his father Omar, he owns and runs "Batistuta and Batistuta", an

18,000-acre ranch about 60 miles west of his native Reconquista in Argentina.

Beef is what Batistuta provides for Argentina. He is the classic team leader, an inspirational figure who lives up to the maxim that "the tough get going when the going gets tough". For seven seasons he has been the best thing Fiorentina have had going for them. As club owners and coaches have come and gone, and while they suffered the indignity of being relegated to Serie B for the first time in 54 years in 1993, Batistuta played on and kept scoring goals — 123 in the league to be precise.

To Fiorentina's fans he is simply Batol and his folk-hero status was confirmed by the erection of a temporary statue of him in 1996 when the Serie A club won the Italian Cup. His striking talents have many other admirers, including Manchester United's manager

Jose Mourinho, who has been talking about the need to construct the World Cup team around young home-based talent. When he arrived in St Etienne this week, his squad included only five members who play in Argentina.

Passarella tried to get by with native talent but during the nine-country round-robin Latin American qualifiers he learnt that there was no substitute for experience. Defeats by Bolivia and Ecuador suggested it was time to bring back the European contingent.

Italian football has its fair share of Argentinians. Players such as Roberto Ayala (Napoli), Jose Chamot (Lazio) and Nestor Sensi (Parma) in defence, Diego Simeone (Internazionale), Matias Almeyda (Lazio), Juan Veron (Sampdoria) and Javier Zanetti (Inter) in midfield, and Hernan Crespo (Parma), Batistuta and Balbo in attack are among the best in Serie A. Add to that list the enigmatic talents of

Ortega and Claudio Lopez and this is a formidable looking squad.

The recall of Batistuta, in particular, represented a major change of mood by Passarella, who had seemed less than enthusiastic about the Fiorentina striker. Passarella is as determined and strong-

as Alex Ferguson who contemplated buying him for £12 million last year, but personal terms could not be agreed.

These will be the first World Cup finals since 1982 when media attention on Argentina had not focused on Diego Maradona, in his absence, Batistuta is the most charismatic player in Daniel Passarella's squad. There is also good reason to suggest that, Ronaldo included, there is unlikely to be a better centre-forward in France this summer.

Batistuta's recall to the Argentina squad, along with the one last week of the experienced Roma striker Abel Balbo, bodes well for a side who always start off as one of the tournament favourites.

Batistuta is not only a complete centre-forward, alternating devastating power with a delicate touch, he is also aware that he has not completely fulfilled his potential. He is one player unlikely to confront these finals with a "Been there, done that" mentality.

The return of the exiles represented an intriguing volte face by Argentina. A couple of seasons ago, Pas-

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Batistuta's recall to the Argentina squad, along with the one last week of the experienced Roma striker Abel Balbo, bodes well for a side who always start off as one of the tournament favourites.

Batistuta is not only a complete centre-forward, alternating devastating power with a delicate touch, he is also aware that he has not completely fulfilled his potential. He is one player unlikely to confront these finals with a "Been there, done that" mentality.

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Spin-offs boost the City slickers

## Not only the bookies will profit

Mark Milner sizes up the potential economic impacts of the World Cup

**W**HILE Britons may dream of an England v Scotland World Cup final in the Stade de France on July 12, Britain's leisure industry would be pretty pleased too. "That would be very pleasant indeed, both from a personal and business point of view," said Linda Bain, a spokeswoman for the brewer Scottish & Newcastle and many businesses here are hoping Glenn Hoddle and Craig Brown will have plenty to smile about.

As Bain said: "The weather and how much progress our home teams make will make a difference. Even so, given our experience of Euro 96 we are hoping for a positive impact on sales." The London brewer Fuller's is more specific. "We are predicting an increase of 15 per cent in beer sales — that's nine million pints," said a spokeswoman. "The World Cup has also intensified the competition between the National Lottery

and Britain's bookmakers — for once swinging the odds the bookmakers' way. Ladbrokes estimate that betting on the event will reach between £80 million and £100 million, again depending on the fortunes of the English and Scottish teams, but it is not simply a question of the cash flowing across the counters. For them the World Cup represents a shop win-

now where they can show casual punters that betting shops have come a long way from the smoke-filled, litter-strewn premises of the past.

Though most bets will be small, the National Lottery organiser Camelot is expecting to be hit. "We operate in a highly competitive market where it is hard to attract the leisure pound. We would not be surprised if sales of

between football watching, drinking, shopping and cinema going, will anyone actually be working? Neither the Confederation of British Industry nor the National Statistical Office can come up with figures from previous footballing extravaganzas, and Britain's economic prospects will be helped by the fact that some of the games will be played in the evenings. Still, employers should expect more people to report in "sick" as the two home countries progress and find themselves playing matches during normal working hours. There could be a few late lunches, too, come the 1.30 pm kick-offs.

Spare a thought for those poor chaps at the National Grid's control centre. They watch every game with hawk-like attention, ready to summon power stations into action at a moment's notice when the demand for power surges as games end and a nation rises as one from its seats in order to brew up. Indeed, the biggest demand ever recorded in the United Kingdom followed the England v Germany game back in 1990. Penalty shoot-outs can play havoc with their calculations. One or two England managers know the feeling.

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National Lottery tickets drop during the World Cup.

Britain's high streets will also be affected — despite the prospect of World Cup "widows" seeking consolation from a surfeit of soccer in shopping.

The Chartered Institute of Marketing reckons that retail sales could fall by one per cent in June and July.

"Even though most of the key matches for England and Scotland in the preliminary rounds are midweek, many of us will be distracted by the progress of our football heroes, forcing high street shopping 'offside,'" according to the CIM's marketing director Ray Perry. Some of those whose revenues are in the firing line are not taking the challenge lying down. For example, the cinema company UCI is launching a nationwide "Hollywood hunks" series in a bid to attract woe viewers, promising "heart-throb action" and "one knee-trembling blockbuster after another". However, it is not carrying the marketing aggression too far. Screening times will not be in competition with England or Scotland games and discounts are on offer, which is rather like playing one up from and five across the middle.

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John Duncan in Paris on why the election of Sepp Blatter as new Fifa president is good news for home hopes

# England well clear of Germany in battle to stage World Cup

**T**HE chances of the World Cup being staged by England in 2006 received a huge boost yesterday when the Swiss Sepp Blatter was elected Fifa president by 111 votes to 80. His opponent Lennart Johansson, who had backed the German bid, was accused by some of being a German "puppet", conceded defeat after one ballot.

"Any German bid for 2006 is dead in the water," said one Fifa source and that was a message which the Football Association bid team were happy to encourage.

It was a disastrous day for the Germans. Not only did they lose Johansson but an amendment they were seeking to prevent any continent putting forward more than one candidate failed by 56 votes.

This comes on top of the Germans losing their place on the Fifa executive in Dublin last month to a Maltese candidate. "It certainly hasn't been a great day for them," said Alec McGivern, the head of England's 2006 bid.

"If the World Cup is coming to Europe in 2006 it is coming to England. We really believe that. A year ago we were told we would not even be allowed to put ourselves forward. Now we are the leading European candidate and we believe the best in the world."

The FA has good grounds for optimism. Although Blatter has said he believes the tournament should go to South Africa in 2006, the FA privately feels that this was electioneering and that once the organisational headaches of the World Cup become apparent over the next month,

few will want to take a risk on the only African candidate in the ring.

One African Fifa delegate yesterday admitted to the congress that no African country could host the tournament alone.

Every organisational cock-up in France 98 will increase the chances of the tournament going to England in 2006, and will strengthen the belief that South Africa still does not possess the infrastructure to host a competition as big as the World Cup. A host-free tournament would similarly boost England's bid.

The vote shows that anti-German feeling in Fifa runs high with Johansson suffering from the negative perception of the Germans and the way they dominate the bureaucracy of Uefa, of which

Johansson is president. Blatter, formerly general secretary of Fifa, is said to be furious with Germany for the manner in which they backed his opponent and he may seek to make the 2006 decision the first course of his revenge.

However the defeat of Johansson will not be welcomed by Premiership clubs, who had expressed private annoyance at the FA decision to back Blatter. They feel that Johansson, an Anglophile and Arsenal fan who personally organised the return of English clubs into Europe after the Heysel ban, has been stabbed in the back by the FA.

They fear that the Swede, who remains as Uefa president, will make them pay and that their influence on the further development of the lucrative European club competitions has been harmed.



The big three... Havelange, left, Johansson and Blatter

Blatter's election is also a vote of confidence in Joao Havelange who had backed Blatter as his successor. Havelange declared England as his choice for the 2006 World Cup last March and hinted at brokering a possible deal with Latin America over the 2010 tournament.

"We are enormously encouraged by the election of Sepp Blatter as the new Fifa president," said McGivern. "We are confident he will ensure a democratic and open bidding procedure when it takes place."

"We remain sure that our bid will be the best on the table when the day of decision comes and that if Fifa does what is best for football they will back England for 2006."

The British government reacted positively to the election result. The Sports Minister

## Kendall neck still on block

Ian Ross

**H**OWARD KENDALL, still behind his desk this morning nervously awaiting the telephone call that will officially signal the end of his tenure at Everton. The most successful manager in the Merseyside club's history reported for work yesterday morning insisting he knew nothing about what would seem to be his imminent departure from Goodison Park.

"I have heard all the speculation but, quite frankly, that has been doing the rounds for the best part of a month," Kendall said. "I shall simply carry on with my duties. I will, however, be seeking talks with my chairman."

Everton's chairman Peter Johnson is thought to have decided at the weekend that a change of manager would be in Everton's best interest. As Kendall awaited news of his fate the man who will probably replace him, Martin O'Neill, agreed to have yet more talks with Leicester City.

Although O'Neill is still likely to resign his post within the next few days he continued to push the olive branch of reconciliation across the boardroom table yesterday.

O'Neill flew out to France last night as part of the BBC's World Cup commentary team, but only after announcing he was happy to return home at any time for another round of negotiations with the chairman of Leicester's plc arm, Sir Rodney Walker.

"I do not want this to drag on but I do want a final decision and, if need be, I will come back from France as soon as a meeting is arranged," O'Neill said, after unsuccessfully trying to arrange a meeting with his employers on Sunday.

Sir Rodney insisted that the recent restructuring of upper and middle management at the Filbert Street club had been revised in the hope of allaying O'Neill's fear of a possible diminishing of his authority.

"We have talked over the weekend about some of his anxieties which are long-standing and really have little to do with recent changes here."

Martin has shared with me the full extent of how he feels about some of the issues relating to his early days at this club," Sir Rodney said.

If O'Neill does decide to remain with Leicester, Everton may seek to install Manchester United's assistant manager Brian Kidd as Kendall's successor.

France 98 The countdown to kick-off



Fire practice... Scholes at training yesterday FRANK BARNON

## Scholes shies at success

Martin Thorpe

**P**EOPLE are talking about Paul Scholes as the new Paul Gascoigne. But though the football fits, a more opposite personality one could not imagine.

Oh, if only Gascoigne could answer the question "How do you like to relax?" with the words "By doing nothing really" - or could openly admit "I just don't like being in the limelight."

But this is the other Paul. Talking, the red-topped Red Devil who, though Gascoigne was his hero as a youngster, shies away from most things apart from football.

Scholes's emergence into the public consciousness as a player of superstar potential accompanied his performance during Le Tournoi last summer. The problem is that the Manchester United forward

does not really want to be a superstar if it means appearing in adverts and on chat shows, and generally being sold as public property.

He has no agent and no pretensions. Ask him what he has treated himself to for the fortune he earns at Old Trafford and he answers: "I bought a house. That's about it really."

"I'm just shy," the 23-year-old readily admits. "I'm very happy out of the limelight. I'm not interested in lots of public attention."

"I'm very low-profile and I like it that way. Ryan Giggs and David Beckham are very high-profile in the Manchester United team. I'm happy in the background."

"On the field I'm totally different. That's the most important thing. It doesn't matter what you're like off the field, as long as you're good on it."

Scholes is the player most pundits expect Hoddle to slot

## Stars in their eyes

What the future holds on planet football

<b>Teddy Sheringham</b> <b>ARIES</b> April 19, 1968 Really good looking, but a bit of a flirt. He's got a good head on his shoulders and is a real team player.	<b>Alan Shearer</b> <b>LEO</b> August 13, 1970 Will be on good form in the first two matches but may feel a bit out of sync in the third.
<b>Paul Scholes</b> <b>SCORPIO</b> November 17, 1971 A real team player and a good player. He's got a good head on his shoulders and is a real team player.	<b>Paul Ince</b> <b>LIBRA</b> October 2, 1972 A real team player and a good player. He's got a good head on his shoulders and is a real team player.
<b>David Beckham</b> <b>TAURUS</b> May 2, 1975 A real team player and a good player. He's got a good head on his shoulders and is a real team player.	<b>Glenn Hoddle</b> <b>SCORPIO</b> November 17, 1971 A real team player and a good player. He's got a good head on his shoulders and is a real team player.

Striking signs for the three lions as England dance to the music of the spheres

**F**IRST, the bad news for England: there are more Librans, renowned for indecisiveness and laziness, in their side than any other star sign. Now the good news: the two main strikers will have the benefit of added energy and adrenalin because they are the only players who have Mars, planet of aggression, drive and achievement, in conjunction with the Sun.

While the stars appear to indicate that Tony Adams should be especially vigilant to eradicate any tendency towards casualness, both Alan Shearer and Teddy Sheringham will be turbocharged in attack.

As for the group matches themselves, the opener looks promising, the second appears routine and the third offers outstanding prospects for the team if not for their coach Glenn Hoddle. They are poised to unfold as follows:

● On the 15th against Tunisia in Marseille, the air and fire signs (Shearer, Adams, Paul Ince, David Batty, Graeme Le Saux and Sheringham) should work well during the first half with

the water and earth signs (David Seaman, Gary Neville, Sol Campbell, David Beckham and Paul Scholes) gaining ground and showing more stamina in the second half.

● On the 22nd against Romania in Toulouse, only Shearer and Beckham will provide the thrills in an unbalanced encounter.

● On the 26th against Colombia in Leus, England can give their best display as more of the players have beneficial planetary influences on that day. Strangely, this does not look

a particularly good day for Hoddle. There are more Librans in this team than any other sign, so look out for their tendencies in midfield. The overall pattern is encouraging, though: the hard-working team members are likely to be the earth signs - Seaman (not too much work, one hopes), Campbell and Beckham. The fire signs will be constant pressure, and with the crowd behind them, Batty, Sheringham and Shearer will rise to the challenge.

England is an Aries country, so Sheringham is likely to symbolise the country more than any other player does. It is a war-like sign, loving confrontation and argument, perhaps a bit independent-minded, but its strengths are energy, drive and courage and the ability to pull back when all seems lost.

Scorpio Scholes is a lone wolf who may stick out. He could work well with his fellow water sign Neville (Pisces) and is a good foil for Beckham (Taurus) but he could really get up Shearer's Leonine nose.

Pat Blackett

## Guivarc'h to become a Geordie

**N**EWCASTLE believe they have won a six-club chase for the French World Cup striker Stephane Guivarc'h. Lazio, Rangers, Arsenal, Internazionale and Bayern Munich are also pursuing the 26-year-old striker but Newcastle are confident he will line up with Alan Shearer next season.

A St James' Park official said: "Guivarc'h is going nowhere but here."

It is believed that the 26-year-old had agreed to move to Tyneside provided Newcas-

tle stayed in the Premiership, but the two clubs have yet to reach a deal and the fee may prove a stumbling block.

Newcastle are ready to pay 24 million but Auxerre are holding out for a club record and the price will rocket if Guivarc'h is a World Cup success. He was top scorer in the French First Division last season with 21 goals.

The Newcastle manager Kenny Dalglish is expected to watch him in France's opening game against South Africa in Marseilles on Friday.

John Gregory, the Aston

Villa manager, has warned his five contract rebels that they will be transfer-listed if they do not sign new deals by July 15.

Bosnich, Gary Charles, Mark Draper, Julian Joachim and Riccardo Scimeca have 12 months left on their existing contracts and next summer would be entitled to walk away on Bosman-ruling free transfers.

Gregory, however, is ready to sell them within the next month if they do not commit themselves to long-term future at Villa Park. He is

anxious to avoid a repeat of last season's lengthy negotiations with Steve Staunton, which ultimately failed to persuade the Republic of Ireland defender to stay.

Gregory, who on Friday paid 24.5 million to Bolton for the midfielder Alan Thompson, said: "Let me state categorically that I don't want anyone to leave Villa. But if the five players given their contracts decide to turn down the new deals they have been offered, then they will be put up for sale."

## Southampton's cash-rich Jones adds striker Zittelli to his wish-list as Slough sell their star

Noam Friedlander

**D**AVE JONES, the Southampton manager, has opened negotiations to sign the French striker David Zittelli from the relegated German side Karlsruhe.

Zittelli, 26, out of contract this summer, will come for talks next week with a view to moving to The Dell on a free transfer. Jones has been handed £10 million to strengthen his squad, following Kevin Davies's

sale to Blackburn, and is also tracking the Belgian forward Emile M'Penza.

Newcastle's Darren Peacock and Spurs' David Howells.

The Aldershot Town manager George Borg has signed the veteran England Semi-professional striker Gary Abbott from Slough Town for a club-record 26,000.

Abbott, 33, has scored more than 150 goals in non-league football including 21 for Slough last season, but his departure could signal the beginning

of the end for Slough after their directors pulled out of the Vauxhall Conference next season citing financial difficulties.

The holiday firm Pontins has extended its sponsorship of English reserve-team football with a new two-year deal with the Central League.

The Football League recorded the best attendance for 38 years last season with 8.3 million people passing through the turnstiles at Nationwide Division One games.

## Chelsea stand firm in face of Laudrup threat from Rangers

Brian Laudrup's free

transfer to Chelsea will stand despite the threat of legal action from Rangers, the London club's managing director Colin Hutchinson said yesterday.

Rangers, who valued Laudrup at 58 million, are demanding compensation for the Danish striker and are threatening to challenge his move in the European court. But Hutchinson said: "Rangers have taken a strategic stance. They know whether they have got the needle with Chelsea or Laudrup, but all the advice we have had is that they haven't got one iota of a case."

Laudrup is not a Rangers player any more because his contract has expired there. We agreed everything in February and he is looking forward to coming here."

Jack Brown, Celtic's general manager, yesterday denied claims by the sacked assistant coach Murdoch MacLeod that he interfered with team affairs and delayed bringing Paul Lambert to the club because he did not rate the player.

MacLeod, sacked last Thursday after helping the former head coach Wim Jansen guide the club to the Coca-Cola Cup and Scottish league title, launched a verbal assault on Brown on Sunday but the latter yesterday accused the former Scotland player of criticising Jansen in an attempt to press his own claims for the job.

He also claimed that MacLeod tried to increase the terms of his own contract last October, four months after arriving at Parkhead.

South of the border, John Stockwell resigned yesterday after three years as chairman of Halifax Town to spend more time running his textile company.

Stockwell joined the Halifax board in August 1992, months before the club was relegated from the Football League, and saw the side lift the Vauxhall Conference title last season to return.



## Six-page sports section

### France 98

Star struck: England's horoscopes revealed 15  
Battista beats up Argentinian hopes 14  
World Cup round-up 14

### Smart Alec

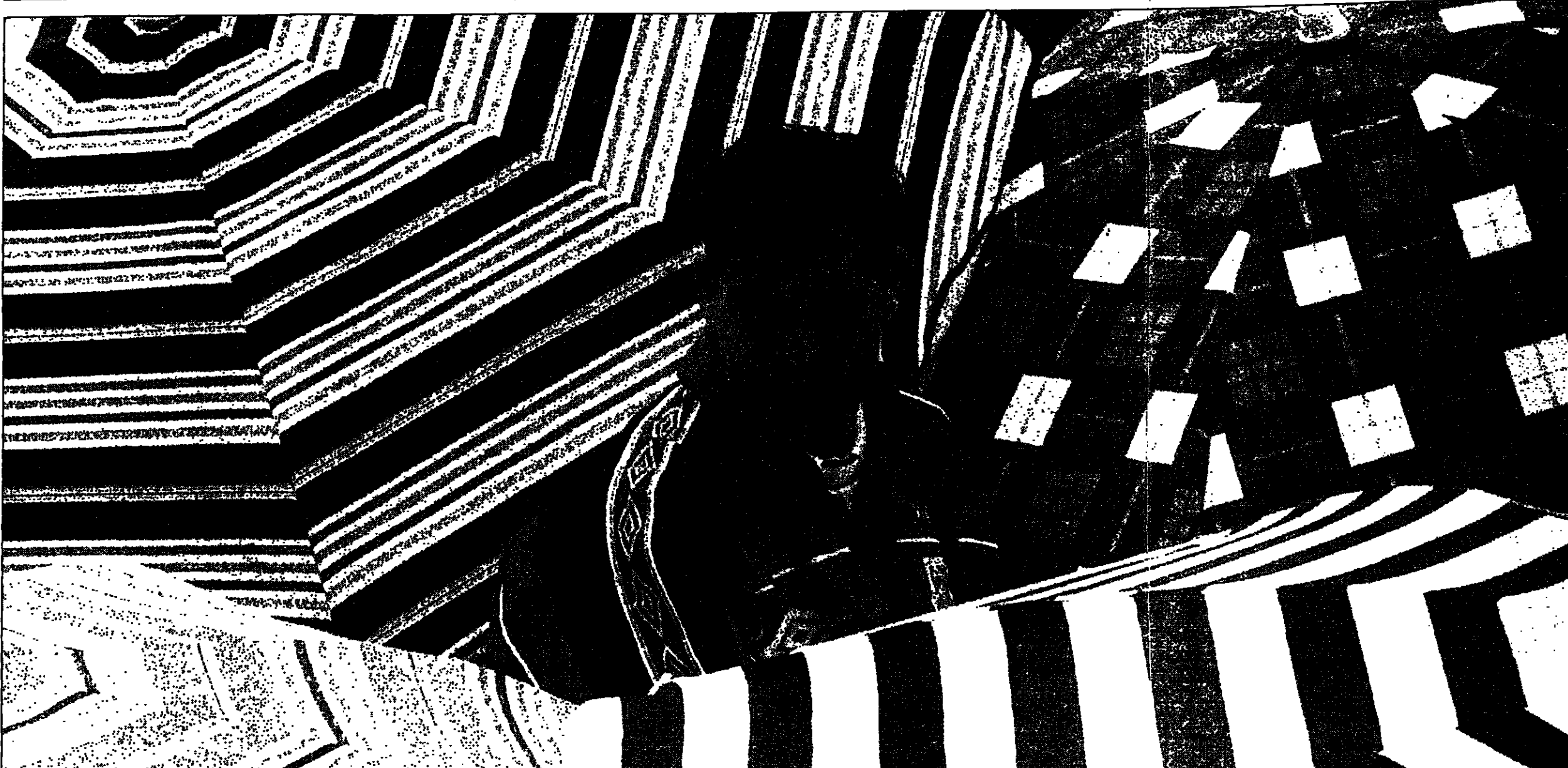
Brave Stewart takes heart from Test washout

11

# The Guardian Sport

Tuesday June 9 1998 www.football.guardian.co.uk

## France 98 The countdown to kick-off



Don't forget the broly... the England coach Glenn Hoddle prepares to swap Bisham Abbey for La Baule yesterday with every confidence that he will be on duty until after the World Cup final

PHOTOGRAPH: FRANK BARON

## Hoddle packs bags for the duration

### Martin Thorpe on an upbeat England squad that today flies out for the front line

**G**LENN HODDLE did not quite go as far as his 1986 counterpart Alf Ramsey and predict that England will win the World Cup. But, as the squad leaves for France 98 this morning, the England coach has made plans for a very long stay.

Travel and hotels are already booked for England's appearance in the final on July 12 and all other preparations have been made on the assumption that they will be

playing the maximum seven games.

"I wouldn't be here if I didn't think we could win it," said Hoddle yesterday. "But not even the Brazilian coach can say we are going to win the World Cup. All I can say is that all we've been doing for the players is geared to performing for seven games. That's not arrogance, that's just professionalism. You've got to make the players think that way."

This multi-million pound global extravaganza, which

will empty most streets in most parts of the planet for four weeks, kicks off tomorrow with Scotland playing Brazil. But before then England go to Caen for a small but important game behind closed doors against the French first division side, and then on to their training camp at La Baule.

England will then have to wait until Monday to reveal themselves to the world in their first game against Tunisia. And, though Hoddle admits he knows his starting

line-up, those interviewing him yesterday also knew the pointlessness of asking.

With those same journalists beginning to call time on stories about Paul Gascoigne's boozing omission and Teddy Sheringham's boozing intermission, the nation is beginning to focus on the main event and the players are gradually sensing the full magnitude of what is about to befall them.

"Wherever we travel now, just coming to the training ground, we get people outside

their houses cheering us," said Hoddle. "There's a buzz around the country and it has given us a bit of a buzz too."

"There is a new excitement among the players and an edge in training. I think they just can't wait to get out there."

But, though there are nerves, there is, Hoddle insists, no fear. A series of impressive results by England, beginning with their semi-final appearance in Euro 96, top place in a tough World Cup qualifying group including Italy, plus overall victory

against Brazil and France in Le Tournoi last summer has infused Hoddle's players with the belief that they can beat the best in the world.

"We won't be going to France with any fear," said Hoddle. "Fear in a group of people means you're on a downward spiral. So, given the players' experiences over the last three years, we're nice and positive."

"I also think we're better prepared than any England squad going into a finals. There have been a few chinks out of my control but by the time of the tournament the players will be prepared men-

tally and physically as well as possible. At the end of the day, if it goes wrong it goes wrong but at least the approach would have been right."

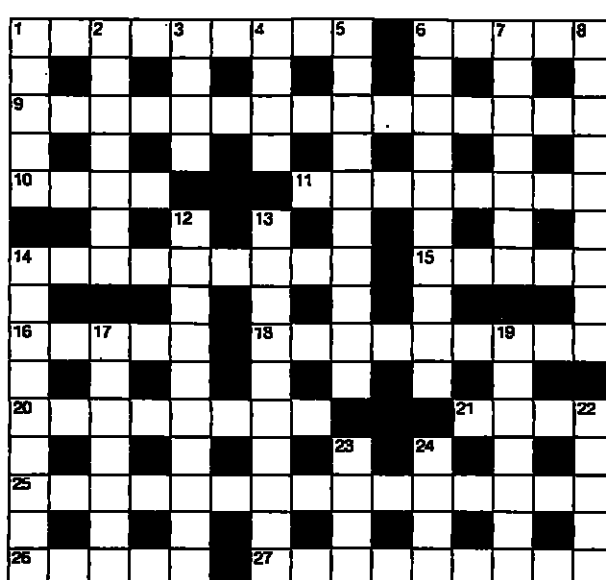
Failure is something which destroyed the England career of one of Hoddle's predecessors, Graham Taylor, and it nearly destroyed the man himself. Eventual failure even brought the sack for the great Ramsey, the only England manager to win the World Cup. So Hoddle knows the expectations and the pressures which attend his task. Ultimately his spirituality will help him see failure in a wider context. For now he is

not even contemplating it. "I've not even thought about not getting into the second round, for instance," he said. "If that happens I'll deal with it then. I don't need to worry about it now."

The fear he acknowledges exists is the age-old concern that some England fans will once again produce fighting spirit of the wrong sort. "I want our fans to enjoy themselves and support England," said Hoddle. "We don't want anyone going to the World Cup if they're not going to get behind the team. They will be an extended part of our team out there."

### Guardian Crossword No 21,296

Set by Gordius



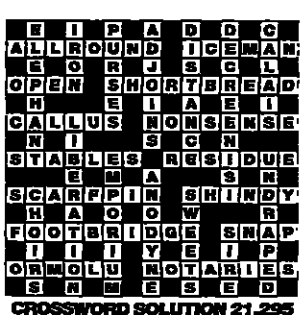
#### Across

- 1 It's hard to be made ill with coos — but this one may be (9)
- 6 Knight, first class, goes to Arab state (5)
- 9 Junk mail? (7,4,4)
- 10 Peterborough may be said to be 1 across (4)
- 11 Deep trouble for front half of horse to stand (8)
- 14 Leading journalist changes for Charing Cross (5)
- 15 Jollification in bed in Germany (5)
- 16 Fruit can be very musical (5)
- 18 At the heart of storm damage in Newcastle initially (9)
- 20 Listened, but not in order. Engaged? (8)
- 21 Many involved in charge for scam (4)

- 25 Infer no council awards can be made (4,1,10)
- 26 Not the town for top people? (5)
- 27 Transport returns for girl student intellectually challenged (9)

#### Down

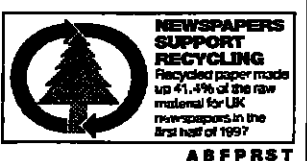
- 1 Collect used in a service (5)
- 2 Prank taken in by investigators — it's a plant (7)
- 3 After ego involved in filthy deeds (4)
- 4 Country boy without a name (4)
- 5 Struggling went on to the finish (10)
- 6 Write in ship's log about Boots, for example (10)
- 7 Leading lady in a straw hat — that's fishy (7)
- 8 It's fashionable to relate shock treatment to the brain (9)



CROSSWORD SOLUTION 21,295

- 12 A man's shirt torn by accident (5,5)
- 13 Native, that is, sounding alien (10)
- 14 College name a fellow for rival press (9)
- 17 To consult an augurer may bear fruit (7)
- 19 Mansion whose erection is unlikely to be fruitful? (7)
- 22 Reverse pole vault took in judges (5)
- 23 He turns his back for the most part on strike leader (4)
- 24 Japanese sport amounts to nothing (4)

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